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# 5 ESSENTIAL PUBLICATIONS for Every Recreation Library

## ★ In-Service Education for Community Center Leadership (226) . . . . . \$ .85

Life, enthusiasm, skill, and understanding brought by recreation leaders to their daily work make the community center a real asset to its neighborhood. Skilled use of every available means to improve leadership is the responsibility of each recreation supervisor and executive. A good in-service education program is essential. This book is a guide to such a program for all recreation leaders. It includes material on philosophy and practice, procedures and methods, outlines of sample meetings, materials and services for the program, and bibliography. Prepared by Donald B. Dyer and staff of the Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for the Committee on In-Service Training of the National Advisory Committee on Recruitment, Training, and Placement of Recreation Personnel.

## ★ Playground Leaders—Their Selection and Training . . . . . \$ .85

A practical guide for everyone concerned with better playground programs. Why are playgrounds so important? Where do we find good leaders? How do we select them? Exactly what should be covered in pre-service training courses? How can we judge whether leaders are doing a good job? Answers to these and other questions are found in this book. Included are sections on: playground leadership—what to look for and where to look; preparing a pre-service training program for playground leaders; content of a pre-service training program; in-service training for better service. Prepared by Raymond T. Forsberg, superintendent of recreation in Waterloo, Iowa, for the Committee on In-Service Training of the National Advisory Committee on Recruitment, Training and Placement of Recreation Personnel.

## ★ Recreation as a Profession in the Southern Region . . . . . \$3.75

A report of the study by the National Recreation Association and the Southern Regional Education Board. This 160-page book analyzes the full-time recreation leader and his employment in community recreation departments, hospitals and correctional institutions, churches, camps, industry, voluntary youth-serving agencies, professional education for the field, defense agencies, and state, regional and national agencies giving special services in recreation. The volume reviews the present status as well as the history of recreation leadership in the region, and forecasts a growth which will require two and one-half times as many full-time recreation leaders as now are employed. Every recreation leader will be interested in the major findings concerning needs for recruitment and for undergraduate and graduate professional education.

## ★ Outdoor Swimming Pools (P 228) . . . . . \$ .75

This series of articles by George D. Butler (reprinted from the January, February, March, and April 1955 issues of RECREATION), covers considerations in pool planning, basic design features, and pool construction factors. The advantages and disadvantages of various pool shapes are discussed in detail, and the study also includes remarks on bathhouses, wading pools, construction, and operating costs and income, as well as a selected bibliography. When these articles appeared in RECREATION they attracted widespread attention and were highly praised; they will be useful to any recreation or park executive who is considering the construction of a swimming pool.

## ★ Surfacing Playground Areas (MP 219) . . . . . \$ .35

The question of long-lasting, economical and safe materials for playground surfacing is of continuing interest to those charged with the responsibility for the establishment and maintenance of playgrounds. This manual (a supplement to a committee report) is an account of experiments in a number of cities in developing playground surfacing. It includes a discussion of cork-asphalt and rubberized materials.

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The National Recreation Association, realizing that the backbone of the recreation movement is the provision of programs and activities that meet the needs and interests of all people, has established a National Advisory Committee on Recreation Programs and Activities. Subcommittees on Drama, Arts and Crafts, and Dance have been formed, and others are in the making. It is our hope that through these committees increased interest can be stimulated, new techniques developed, standards raised, trained leadership developed, and new material prepared and distributed.

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JUNE 1955



THE MAGAZINE OF THE RECREATION MOVEMENT

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**On the Cover**

White sails in the sunshine, making a clear mark against the blue of sky and water, the green of trees and bushes, will be a familiar scene in many camps this summer. What better way to spend a hot, lazy day? Photo by courtesy of the Missouri Resources Division.

**Next Month**

The September issue will have a special section carrying articles about Denver and last minute information about the Congress. Further emphasis will be placed on school-community cooperation for over-all recreation service. Two interesting articles on the subject of recreation education will be in this issue: one by Dr. Charles Brightbill, professor of recreation at the University of Illinois, and the other by Harlan G. Metcalf, chairman of the Department of Recreation Education, State Teachers College, Cortland, New York.

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# Recreation\*

## CONTENTS

### GENERAL FEATURES

Camping—an American Adventure (Editorial) .....	Reynold E. Carlson 252
Recreation Leadership Training Opportunities.....	256
Needs of Present Day Children—How Can Camps Meet Them?.....	Jean A. Thompson 258
Boys and Girls Together—Handicapped and Able-bodied.....	John D. Herzog 260
Howdy Pardner (1955 National Recreation Congress).....	262
Creating An Art-Minded Community—at Oglebay.....	Edwin M. Steckel 264
Outdoor Recreation and An Adventure.....	Ernest Buff, Jr. 266
New Camp in Colorado Springs.....	Lester Griswold 270
Arts and Crafts Are Terrific Success.....	Mary E. L. Smeier 273
The Enchanted World of Out-of-Doors .....	Dorothy Edwards Shuttlesworth 280

### ADMINISTRATION

"Walk-To" Pools Are Worth a Million .....	William A. Silverman, Jr. 284
Feet On The Shower Room Floor .....	286
Naming the Recreation Area.....	287
Family Camps.....	288
Research Reviews and Abstracts.....	George D. Butler 289
Baseball Practice Area.....	Mickey McConnell 290

### PROGRAM

Evening Programs in Camp.....	Gerald P. Burns 275
New Horizons in Camp Fires.....	Justine Milgrom 277
Use An Autoharp on the Playground .....	Betty Burton 279
How About a Peanut Carnival?.....	David Sayward 281
Enameling on Copper—Earrings and Pins (How To Do It).....	Frank A. Staples 283

### REGULAR FEATURES

Things You Should Know.....	254
Letters .....	255
Editorially Speaking.....	257
Reporter's Notebook.....	268
How To Do It!.....	See Program
News of Affiliated Societies.....	285
Hospital Capsules.....	Beatrice H. Hill 291
Market News.....	292
Listening and Viewing.....	293
Personnel—Expanding the Recreation Profession in the South.....	W. C. Sutherland 294
Books and Pamphlets Received, Magazine Articles.....	295
New Publications .....	296
Index of Advertisers.....	296
Recreation Leadership Training Courses.....	Inside Back Cover

# CAMPING- an American Adventure



Reynold Carlson

Throughout early American history, thought and culture were influenced by the existence of an ever-present wilderness on the western frontier, beckoning those who sought a new life and adventure in a new world. Perhaps it is more than mere coincidence that, as the frontier filled in, the organized camping movement took hold and began to flourish. It may be that the camps met a need, in the lives of children, which increased as the wilderness dwindled. From a small beginning less than ninety years ago the camping movement grew, slowly at first, but gaining momentum with the twentieth century. Today, about four million children attend twelve thousand camps in our country each year.

The impact of the frontier is felt in many realms of American life, but in no other is it felt more directly than in the camping movement. Camping is an American institution with no European precedents. Through it our children may relive in their imagination the stirring drama of the western movement and the conquering of the wilderness, and may enter into the adventures of the early explorers, the fur traders, the Indians, the cowboys of the plains, and the lumbermen of the north woods.

The enjoyment of the out-of-doors is the birthright of every child. It is not

**REYNOLD E. CARLSON** is professor of education at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.



meet that all of childhood should be spent on pavements, in the crowded corridors of schools, or amidst the sights and sounds of modern mechanized civilization. Something within us calls for the open, for sunshine and rain, for a chance to paddle a canoe, to swim, to fish, and to enjoy the beauty of lake, field, stream, or sunset. It is as though something from out of man's past calls back his children to renew their acquaintanceship with a world long left behind in the ascent to the comforts and conveniences of modern city living.

We Americans have a great heritage—a tradition of self-reliance, of initiative that conquered the wilderness, of democratic living, of respect for one another, of tolerance of divergent viewpoints, of recognition of the rights of both majorities and minorities, of action to accomplish our ends through democratic procedures. This is the heritage which camp seeks to perpetuate.

We have, however, inherited not only a way of thinking and doing. We have also inherited a land. Where better than in camp can children learn to love the land and the life that dwells thereon? Where better than at camp can they learn the need for wise and proper use of resources in order that those who come later will have unspoiled areas in which to live? Where better than at camp can vital lessons for conservation be learned, lessons on which the survival of our country may depend?

Camps today range from the high mountains to the seashores, from the Poconos of Pennsylvania to the Cas-

cades of Oregon. Camping has now become a part of the program of almost every educational, religious, and recreational agency. Each camp has its own unique flavor. Most of them try to relate their programs both to the needs of children and to the lure and lure of the land on which they are located.

It has been said that the organized camp is "the wedding of recreation and education." It provides an almost ideal learning situation and yet abounds with joyful adventure. Camp is group living. Real problems of food, shelter, personal care, and program planning must be solved. Campers learn through adventurous doing; they learn to swim by swimming, to paddle a canoe by paddling, to build fires by building fires. They learn to live with others and to solve problems on a group basis while, at the same time, they consider individual needs within the group. Their close and informal relationships with good counselors can influence them deeply and can guide them toward richer personalities and more abundant living.

For a child, camping means friends, activity, and adventure. From the washing of dishes on a cookout and the construction of a check dam to the holding of an outdoor vesper service on a Sunday evening, camp is filled with opportunities for learning, sharing, and enjoying. Truly the camp experience can be a highlight in growing up and can serve to orient children to the physical world, to their individual purposes, and to group living. *♦♦♦*

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## Things You Should Know . .

► AMERICA'S TWENTY-SIX MILLION CONTRIBUTORS to local community chests and united campaigns are being asked again this year to support the National Recreation Association's special services for men in the armed forces.

For five years the National Recreation Association's special defense services have been a part of the United Defense Fund which in turn was supported by chests and united campaigns. This year, local campaigns are being asked to give directly to the National Recreation Association.

► THE 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON AGING, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, will be held June 27-30 this year. It is a how-to-do-it conference, offering to experienced leaders and newcomers alike the opportunity to learn more about principles and techniques for developing many kinds of programs and services for the aging. For further information write to Division of Gerontology, University of Michigan, 1510 Rackham Building, Ann Arbor.

► POTENTIAL RECREATION USE OF MAN-MADE LAKES AND WATER RESERVOIRS is highlighted in the seventh annual report to the governor by the California State Recreation Commission. The report has been released in Sacramento to recreation officials of state and local government by Mrs. Rollin Brown of Los Angeles, commission chairman and board member of the National Recreation Association. The accomplishments in recreation services by over 240 jurisdictions, referred to for the 1953-54 fiscal year, provide a key to enrichment of community living in California. A limited number of copies of the report are available upon request at the office of State Director of Recreation, 721 Capitol Avenue, Room 609, Sacramento.

► THE SEPTEMBER, 1955 ISSUE OF RECREATION MAGAZINE will be the National Recreation Congress Issue carrying a Congress section which will include an article on what to see and do in the city of Denver—and on the way there; last minute news about the big meeting; a list of commercial exhibitors, and so on.

► ACCORDING TO FIGURES JUST RELEASED by Great Smoky Mountains National Park officials, in Asheville, North Carolina, estimated travel in the park during March 1955 totaled 84,122 persons.

► QUICK-THINKING RECREATION EXECUTIVES are ordering the 1955 community recreation salary report for their board and commission members as well as for themselves. Copies, under the title, *Community Recreation Salaries, 1955*, are available from the National Recreation Association for one dollar.

► READERS SENDING PHOTOGRAPHS TO US: please have proper credit line on each one. Also be sure to attach a line or two of descriptive information about the subject.

► A NEW ACTION PROGRAM this spring has been announced by the American Council to Improve Our Neighborhoods—a non-profit, non-political organization established to implement the conservation and improvement of existing housing and the clearance of slums. ACTION was formed by leading citizens throughout the country representing every segment of the population, and its program was nationally launched when President Eisenhower addressed the inaugural meeting.

Two officers, David C. Slipher and Martin Meyerson, head its field service and research divisions. Mr. Meyerson says, "The main key to the accomplishment of the ACTION program lies in effectively analyzing housing and community problems and evaluating successes and failures of the conservation and rebuilding programs throughout the country. ACTION's research division will assemble materials on proved techniques and methods required to maintain and improve living conditions in American cities and towns. In addition the division will develop a long-range program to encourage needed studies in neglected fields of research on housing and city planning." ACTION's headquarters are 2 West 46th Street, New York City.

► PLEASURE BOATING, according to the *New York Times* report of the January

Motor Boat Show in New York City, is not only a sport and recreation, but "an attitude, a joy, a frame of mind." It goes on to say that last year, 20,000,000 Americans were owners, crews, or passengers on the country's 5,250,000 pleasure craft of all sizes—of which 4,500 are outboards.

The phenomenal rise of pleasure boating as a participant's sport has resulted in a new documentary film, *The Big Change*, produced by Evinrude (393 Fourth Avenue, New York, New York). It traces a six-year social and economic evolution in the way Americans spend their leisure time.

► A NEW 1955 EDITION of the state-wide *Directory of Social Service Resources in Massachusetts* has just come off the press. Listing 3,400 tax-supported and voluntary agencies covering all 351 towns and cities of the state, it not only locates these agencies but describes their program. It is published jointly by Massachusetts Community Organization Service and United Community Services of Metropolitan Boston, and sells for \$2.50 per single copy or \$2.00 per copy on orders of five or more copies. Orders should be sent and checks made out to the United Community Services Directory, 14 Somerset Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts.

► A PROGRESS REPORT of the Comics Magazine Association of America is presented in a "Comics Fact Kit," just published by the association (41 East 42nd Street, New York 17) in limited quantity. Every effort will be made to fill any requests for this. The kit has been printed for groups or individuals interested in the comic book industry's program for self-regulation.

Cleaned-up comics sporting the seal of approval of the newly formed Comics Code Authority are now on the newsstands.

### An Appeal

In attempting to conduct a recreational activity in Germany for a community of 1,200 American school children, there are many problems. I have lately been loaned a file (two years) of your publication and was able to use much of the material presented. Could you interest your readers in coming to our assistance via letter? The address is: Frances X. Huey, Director, Nurnberg American Youth Center, APO 696, New York, New York.

### Apologies

The name of Allen E. Risedorph, co-author with Robert J. Templeton, of "Parklets in Pittsburgh," was misspelled in the May 1955 issue of RECREATION. Sorry!

# Letters

*Readers! You are invited to send letters for this page to Editor, RECREATION, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11—so that your ideas, opinions and attitudes may be exchanged with others on the wide range of subjects of concern to us all. Here is your chance to agree or disagree with the authors of our articles.*

—The Editors.

## Interracial Article

Sirs:

In the November 1954 issue of RECREATION, an article, "Interracial Pool Operation" by William H. Gremley, has come to our attention. The clear and thoughtful coverage of the processes involved in opening a restricted swimming program to all community members is excellent; and a careful reading of this article will be a great help to many organizations facing situations similar to the one mentioned. Would it be possible to obtain reprints?

DOROTHY TAKECHI, *Leadership Services, YWCA, New York, New York.*

## Baseball for Boys

Sirs:

"Baseball for Boys," RECREATION, March 1955 has resulted in letters and cards from twenty-seven sources representing sixteen different states.

VINCENT L. FOWLER, *Director of Recreation, Cortland, New York.*

## Creative Arts

Sirs:

Grace Stanistreet's article, "The Case for Creative Arts in Recreation," in your March 1955 issue, made me wish that I might have heard the whole address from which it was taken. It concerns a vital aspect of recreation—one that channels imagination and emotion into constructive and satisfying uses.

Miss Stanistreet's philosophy is sound and her way of expressing it extremely good.

WINIFRED WARD, *1600 Hinman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.*

## How Magazine is Used

Sirs:

I thought you might be interested in knowing of the use we put RECREATION magazine to here in Oceanside. In addition to my own personal subscription to the magazine, our advisory committee on recreation subscribes to another copy as well. When this copy arrives, I screen it and make a series of notations in the index alongside of interesting ar-

ticles and features. I then pass the magazine on to a member of the advisory committee. Each month the member receiving the magazine is a different one, appointed by the chairman.

At the next advisory committee meeting, the member who has received the magazine gives a detailed report on interesting items, controversies, new ideas and other pertinent data from the issue. The results have been most heartening. Not only do many of our members come up with new ideas but they are constantly making comparisons between what we are doing here and elsewhere in the nation. This use alone makes RECREATION magazine, in my estimation, an invaluable tool.

JOSEPH E. CURTIS, *Director of Recreation, Oceanside, New York.*

\* \* \* \*

Sirs:

Our recreation department, which receives three copies of the RECREATION magazine each month, has been putting all copies to what we feel is the most maximum use.

About six months back we made arrangements with the city library and the high school library to have our additional copies placed in their departments. Since that time the magazines have been used extensively by students, both for reading purposes and reference material. The interest in recreation was created to a point where panel discussions on recreation were held by both the junior and senior high students at PTA meetings.

This proves to be a good public relations move, besides helping to inform many more persons on the workings of community recreation programs throughout the country.

RED HALPERN, *Director of Recreation, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.*

## Outdoor Swimming Pools

Sirs:

I notice in the March issue of RECREATION the third part of the article by George D. Butler on outdoor swimming pools. From time to time we receive in-



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quiries from our various local chapters pertaining to the design, methods of maintenance, and the actual construction of swimming pools.

I would like to have, if possible, a supply of all four parts of this article to use in mailings whenever requests are received. I think this is one of the finest articles I have yet seen and, somehow, I would like to make this available to the Jaycees throughout the country who write us for information on pools.

**JERRY BRENNAN, Director, Sports and Recreation, Jaycees, Tulsa, Oklahoma.**

Sirs:

My congratulations upon the commencement of the series on planning and construction of swimming pools (January 1955). Out here in Australia,

the post-war growth of outdoor pools is most marked. In this country, almost the area of the United States of America, but with a population of nine million, we cannot count our new pools in the thousands but in hundreds. Most pools are being built by public authorities and are partly subsidized by the government in the interests of national health. We have a mere handful of indoor heated pools, a factor militating against continuous training for competition, but our climate is exceptionally kind to the growth of outdoor pools.

In my part of the State of New South Wales, the boom is in full progress. This region, known as the New England-North West, has twelve major towns. Six of these towns are now building or raising funds for town pools. The twelve pools will serve a total of 70,000 rural dwellers, or one pool per 5,800 people. The area of the region is 41,000 square miles.

Most pools are being built to Olympic standards. Indeed this is the only size that the government will partly finance. The State Education Department of New South Wales has completed its first two pools of school size (33 yards by 15 yards) and more are planned in stages. The cement spray-gun method is now being used on school pools, a new pool method out here.

Most pools have open-topped bath houses (or dressing rooms) with lockers and pegs, plus ablutions. New pools

are including special diving pools in addition to the traditional wading and swimming pools. One new Olympic pool has just opened at a cost of 220,000 dollars (U.S.A.) and is considered the most modern in the state. Other Olympic pools are being largely built by skilled voluntary labour (week-ends) for a cost of about 140,000 dollars (U.S.A.). Admissions to public pools including a locker average of about 10-15 cents (U.S.A.) for adults while school children often are admitted for one cent.

G. W. WALKER, *Regional Physical Education Office, Public School Building, New South Wales, Australia.*

Sirs:

We are very interested in securing your "How To Plan an Outdoor Swimming Pool." We would like all three articles on this topic by Mr. George D. Butler, and we shall appreciate your advising us how we may secure them.

**JACK BOXLEY**, Manager, Sewerage and Water Works Commission of Hopkinsville, Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

- This series, "Outdoor Swimming Pools—Their Planning and Construction," in four parts, has been reprinted and is now available in collated form from the NRA. Price seventy-five cents per single copy, or write for quantity rates.  
—Ed.

## **RECREATION LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>For Further Information</i>
July 1-28	National Camp June Institute and Advanced Leadership Training, National Camp, Matamoras, Pennsylvania	Dr. L. B. Sharp, Outdoor Education Association, 369 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, New York
August 8-13	Lloyd Shaw Square Dance and Round Dance Institute, Cheyenne Mountain School, Colorado Springs, Colorado	Lloyd Shaw, 1527 Winfield Avenue, Colorado Springs, Colorado
June 15-August 15	Training Center for Outdoor Living, Derrybrook, South Londonderry, Vermont	Catherine T. Hammett, Box 97, Pleasantville, New York
June 15-August 11	Planning and Administration of Social Recreation; Camp Administration; Outdoor Recreation; Seminar on Conducting a Day Camp (four courses), Bradford Woods, Martinsville, Indiana	Dr. Garrett G. Eppley, Department of Recreation, University of Indiana, Bloomington, Indiana
June 17-July 22 July 25-August 26	Courses in Recreation, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado	Clifford Houston, Social Recreation, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado
July 2-10	Geneva Folk and Country Dance School, George Williams College Camp, Wisconsin	Hugh D. Allen, George Williams College, 5315 Drexel Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois
July 4-August 13	New York University Graduate Camp, Sloatsburg, New York	Dawn E. Keith, New York University Camp, Sloatsburg, New York
July 17-23	Danebod Recreation Institute, Tyler, Minnesota	Enok Mortensen, Tyler, Minnesota
July 25-August 6	Church Recreation Conference and Folk Dance Camp, College of the Pacific, Stockton, California	Lawton Harris, College of the Pacific, Stockton, California
July 30-August 6	Green Lake Recreation Leaders' Laboratory, Green Lake, Wisconsin	Eber Bowles, P. O. Box 1056, Huntington 13, West Virginia
August 7-13	Wisconsin Recreation Leader's Laboratory, Kamp Kenwood, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin	Bruce L. Cartter, 314 Agriculture Hall, College of Agriculture, Madison 6, Wisconsin
September 18-24	Great Lakes Recreation Leaders' Laboratory, Twin Lakes 4-H Club Camp, Traverse City, Michigan	Arden M. Peterson, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan

# Editorially Speaking

## Popular Appeal

Popular magazines are paying more attention to community recreation and to the enrichment of living through leisure-time activities than ever before. Watch for such articles. And have you ever considered what you, yourself, might be able to contribute to this wide interpretation of our field to the general public? Some few of the many recent articles are:

*Los Angeles Times Home Magazine*, April 3, 1955: "Can You Have a Pool?"—A whole section devoted to building and care of private pools.

*Ladies Home Journal*, April 1955: "Recreation Center for a California Town"—the development of a neighborhood park and community center by volunteers, at no cost to the city.

*Woman's Day*, May 1955—Two articles, one on the operation of Little League as typified in the small town of Wakefield, Rhode Island; the other on a "Child's Bill of Rights," with explanatory anecdotes.

*McCall's*, March 1955: "We Visit A Boys' Cooking School"—a picture-story of the city's recreation department cooking classes for boys in Louisville, Kentucky.

*Woman's Home Companion*, March 1955: "Everybody Here Cares About Kids"—the first of a series against juvenile delinquency, tells how a city established a community recreation program to stop delinquency before the latter got started.

For further listings, watch your NRA Affiliate and Associate Membership Newsletters.

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Examples of community volunteer orchestras in the Middle West, South and Far West have been requested from NRA by a national magazine for a possible feature story. Suggestions from affiliate members will be welcome . . . send to Public Information and Education, NRA.

## Teens Offer Views on Delinquency Curbs

According to *Newark (N. J.) News* of March 28, 1955, a symposium—sponsored by the Greater Newark Women's Division, American Jewish Congress—in which high school students and adults took part, brought forth some interesting observations on causes of delinquency. The president of one high school student council pointed up: (1)

the increased temptations put before youth by grown-ups. ("I personally know of beer-joints which welcome kids. Then there are the dope pushers—I have a friend who is serving time for a \$120-a-week drug habit. He was seventeen when he was caught.") (2) comic books and horror magazines; and (3) "worst of all," newspapers which overplay small acts of delinquency to boost their sales, and do not mention the hundreds of students "who didn't fight."

Another student told of the formation of teen council to draw up a code of ethics to replace the lawless gang codes, and to discuss problems with grown-ups so each group would understand the other's point of view. He said that teen-agers don't like to be handed anything, that all the recreation facilities in the world are useless if youngsters don't have the right attitude, that youth wants to help plan its own activities and to help combat "what are, after all, our own problems."

## Student Reaction to Recreation Curriculums

The following brief comments have been gleaned, from reports of personal visits to a number of colleges and universities conducting major recreation curriculums, by representatives of the NRA Personnel Service. They come from students interviewed, from alumni, and from conferences and special meetings during the past year.

In general, the students feel that they are getting good training; but they, along with older workers, are giving the matter serious thought. They say:

- A wide variety of skill courses is not required; too much left to own choice.

- Administrative courses are too general, problems are not worked out in detail.
- A greater variety of field experience is desirable. Paid field work may be better than unpaid—employees are more interested than are supervisors of voluntary field work. Also, the paid job is both broader and more intensive than field work on a voluntary basis.
- Theory courses tend to overlap too much.
- Would like to see more emphasis on the individual.
- Advanced courses are not "advanced" enough.
- Required education courses for the most part do not relate to recreation leadership.
- Need more work in interpretation.
- Too little work required in certain courses—not hard enough—no stimulation.
- Programming courses too general.
- No music course really applicable to recreation.
- Need improved courses, added courses in recreation rather than related fields, and courses where "you do things."
- Many directors of recreation curriculums do not know students. The assistant professors who are less qualified spend more time with them and are doing most of the advising.

The college educators probably realize the weaknesses of their own programs more than anyone else. The operating agencies and the recreation profession should be understanding and ever ready to help these people who are in many instances operating under serious handicaps. Our college recreation educators are important members of the recreation team and deserve help from the field.

What more each can do individually or collectively to help:

- Recruit promising young people for the recreation curriculum.
- Advise with school authorities on ways and means of strengthening the recreation curriculum.
- Provide more and better student field experience.
- Promote scholarships and internships for recreation students.
- Establish more effective relationships between the colleges and operating agencies.

## WHY RECREATION DEMAND WILL GROW FROM 1950 to 1975



Reprinted with permission from "Can We Predict Recreation's Future?" by John Kenneth Decker, *Journal of Health, Physical Education and Recreation*, March 1955.

# Needs of Present Day Children-

## HOW CAN CAMPS MEET THEM?

Jean A. Thompson

**I**N THE KIND of world we have asked our children to face—a world that is crowded; a world where people are confused about moral values, where children are confused about adult behavior which at times seems inconsistent; a world where the institution of the family is changing, where parents, sometimes unwittingly, hurt or retard their children's personality development; a world where untoward outside influences press upon the child with a weight equal or more than equal to that of family influences—what do today's children need? They need a better world and, while waiting for that to come, they need help in attaining the stamina and the stability that comes with maturity, real maturity of personality, if they are to survive in this kind of world.

What is our responsibility as adults to these children? We must try to make a better world. We must get behind movements and budget pleas for better legislation and for more facilities for helping children. We must do our own job well. This means that we must know more about children and we must see to it that those who work under us, who are closer perhaps to the children, know about children's needs and have help in meeting them.

Has a camp program or camp experience anything to offer beyond a chance to get away from the crowded city, good nourishment for a few weeks, and vitamins from the sun's rays? Obviously,

camping cannot fill all the needs that we have described as being peculiar to the children of today. Yet, if we remember that, ideally, all the experiences of a child's life should help to advance him along the road to maturity, we realize that the camp has a big part to play in this advancement. It provides experiences of many types and in many areas through which the child must pass on the road to maturity.

Let us examine some of these areas. There is, first of all, experience in relation to authority. There are adults whose job it is to enforce necessary rules. The manner in which this is done has much to do with whether the camp advances the child's progress toward maturity or retards it. One young counselor was having trouble with a group of thirteen-year-old girls. They were trying the counselor out as young people are apt to do. She sat down with them and discussed the matter of rules. She explained that there were not a great many rules at camp but there were reasons for the rules that did exist. She then drew them out in discussion so that the reasons for the rules were finally expressed by the girls themselves. From then on, the rules had more meaning for them.

It is in the area of learning to live with other children and get along with them that camp has perhaps the most to offer. The child at camp becomes aware quickly of the attitudes of other children toward him. It is, however, sometimes necessary to help him to an awareness of his attitude toward other children. Sometimes by trial and error he learns what other children will take from him and what they like best in him. He has a chance to choose his friends quite in-

dependently. Unconsciously, he shapes his personality to fit the needs of other people. He has a chance to measure himself and his strength and his skill against others. He learns to give and take in play. If he is old enough, he takes over and makes a part of himself the best that he sees in others, both adults and children. With this kind of identification, he adds to his ideal of the adult he wants to be.

There is a possibility that at camp the child may have more opportunity to make decisions. He is away from his family and it is rather expected that he is on his own to some extent. His family has trusted him to go away without them. At the same time there is at camp help and guidance in making decisions. It is important, however, that camp workers know their children well enough and be astute enough to know when the child wants a little guidance and when he needs to make the decision himself.

The duties that a camp imposes play their part in the child's personality development. As everyone knows, a child makes a real step toward maturity when he achieves the self-discipline needed to complete his regular chores. This kind of self-discipline comes slowly, for, as one young adolescent said, "I have so much on my mind." The adults must, therefore, acquire the self-discipline of patience.

In addition to the development of attitudes toward adults and toward other children to which camp life contributes, there is another area where the camp

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DR. THOMPSON, psychiatrist, has been acting director of the Bureau of Child Guidance, Board of Education, New York City, since 1949, and has three children of her own who have gone regularly to camp.

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Condensed and reprinted, with permission, from a talk given at the Annual Conference of the Camping Section of the Group Work and Recreation Division of the Welfare and Health Council of New York City, November 13-14, 1954.

has opportunity to add a great deal to the inner resources of the child. This is the area of cultural values and spiritual values. There is a chance to help the child toward an appreciation of beauty, toward a feeling of awe at the wonders of nature, and through this to a kind of spiritual experience, the kind of feeling that made the psalmist exclaim, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork."

Learning in all these areas goes on at camp in an atmosphere comparatively free from pressure. In schools, the teacher knows that the principal expects certain results. The principal knows that the assistant superintendent expects certain results, and all know that there will be city-wide tests of achievement which will be compared with the results of tests throughout the country. At camp, there is none of this. This is vacation. Yet the child is learning in a sort of ideal atmosphere. He is learning how to take his place in a world full of other people and is enjoying the learning process, so that there is every incentive to learn. There is no need to hold back. He would not gain anything (as he sometimes may gain at home) by being a baby. Everyone else is going toward maturity and having a rare time doing it, so he may as well do it too.

This, it seems to me, is what the camp has to offer, help toward real maturity of personality. But it is not as easy as it sounds, for camps receive children in all different stages of maturity. Even though all children in a camp are of the same chronological age, there are still differences in their emotional maturity. The challenge to the camp then is to meet the needs of these different children. To do this, there must be sufficient understanding on the part of the staff that much of children's behavior is their way of trying to fill their personality needs and there must be a flexible program.

Take the girl of thirteen who at camp worried excessively about her health. She discussed it and ran to the infirmary frequently. The physician's examination was negative. A wise counselor recognized that this girl avoided all athletic activities. She sensed that the child was using her complaints about health

to gain recognition and perhaps to make a plausible peg on which to hang her anxiety. The counselor noted that this girl had considerable talent in English expression. Opportunities were made for her to use this talent. Their tent composed a song for a particular occasion and she had a big part in the endeavor. The girl was given a job on the camp newspaper. The physical complaints and the worrying disappeared.

In the fall, this girl went into high school. She wrote her counselor an enthusiastic thank-you letter, telling that for the first time in her life, she felt confident in making friends. She was getting a great deal out of her schoolwork and was much happier than ever before.

There are many problems camping cannot solve. Take the child who ran away from camp to get back to a home that was literally falling apart. She had an idea that if she was there, her parents would remain together. There are children for whom we do not recommend camp. Often one finds a child who is not at all sure of the love of his parents. Such a child is apt to interpret a camp placement as a further rejection by the parents. If it does seem best for mother and child to have little respite from each other, then there must be a period of preparation of the child so that he does not feel more rejected.

For the child who has built up no inner controls, who always must be controlled from outside, a camp may be too free. There may not be the facilities for the care and the control that such a child needs. On the other hand, if a camp does have enough help, such children have been known to make great strides in maturity. Away from the irritants within the home, the child finds himself in an atmosphere of greater freedom and flexibility. He is under less strain, therefore, and so can use his potential for a good adjustment. This must be what happens, for we of the child guidance clinic, who think of a camp placement as part of the therapy, see the benefits as the children return and we get the reports from the camps. If the child just has a good time, it is important and perhaps the first step toward the acceptance of adults as kindly, sympathetic helpers.

What are the implications of all this

for camp workers? If they are to do a good job of helping children along the road to maturity, they must utilize every means possible for good selection and training of staff. There should be careful investigation of applicants. There should be recognition of the fact that immaturities persist in the older adolescents and in young adults, immaturities which may eventually disappear as the individual gets more experience. Sibling rivalry may be evident in the young counselor who treats his charges with the roughness with which he treats his own younger brothers. The need to exert power over the weak may cause a young man to be quite punitive.

With good leadership, the staff conference can become a teaching medium which should benefit not only the campers but also the counselor. If it is used for discussion of problems in the children, and if help and understanding can be given to the counselors in the handling of the problems, then all will benefit. Thus a camp can be a source of pre-parent education. Most young people enter parenthood with very little education in bringing up children. Here at camps there is a natural schoolroom for learning about children.

If the camps are to be helpful to the children of today, both the intake policy and the program have to be kept flexible, for so many children are troubled and camp can help many of the troubled children. Restrictions concerning I.Q. can deprive a child of camp who might very well have profited from it. We know that a child who is burdened with anxiety will often test lower, so that the obtained I.Q. is not a measure of his ability. We know that many retarded children, if not pressed beyond their capacity, do well in camp. Those children who are on the edge of delinquency, who may have even had a first appearance in court, may respond well to the atmosphere and conditions of camp life.

To meet the challenge of today's children, both camps and sending agencies need close cooperation. Planning together for the child means the free exchange of information before the child goes to camp and after he returns, for only as we really know our children can we fit our programs to their needs. *eas*

# Boys and Girls Together— ***Handicapped and Able-bodied***

**John D. Herzog**

A report of experiences in the successful Herald Tribune Fresh Air Fund summer camp where these groups intermingle.

THE DISTINGUISHED doctor of physical medicine was addressing the counselors of Camp Hidden Valley at the close of a pre-camp training period; and he was strongly advocating that its handicapped children participate actively, and in every possible way, with the able-bodied youngsters who make up the majority of the campers. "We are apt to have at least four or five broken braces here this summer," he said. His remark sounds rather drastic, but in a way was an apt expression of Hidden Valley's philosophy concerning the physically handicapped youngsters who attend it.

This camp offers its disabled children a wide variety of "normal" activities from which to choose, and it places them in living units with able-bodied companions. It permits them to engage in active physical sports as much as they wish. The fact that there are "two kinds" of children at camp is virtually forgotten. As a result, handicapped boys and girls do things and acquire abilities which amaze counselors, parents, and the children themselves.

Camp Hidden Valley, operated by the Herald Tribune Fresh Air Fund of New York City, is located in Ridgefield, Connecticut. There is very little out of the ordinary about the site or staff of the camp, except for the presence of a swimming pool in place of the usual lake or stream waterfront. Fresh Air Fund officials were surprised and skeptical four summers ago when a local polio group asked for permission to use the camp for disabled children at the close of the regular camping season. They were further astonished and excited, in the same way that present visitors to camp are, when they saw the polio children "take over" the camp. Then and there they were determined to initiate a similar venture during the entire camping season.

The Fresh Air Fund is an organization set up to provide country vacations to the underprivileged children of New York City, regardless of race, religion, or national background. The Fund believed that a large number of handicapped children of modest means in the city were unable to find a summer camp other than a "treatment center" which would accept them. These beliefs were soon verified in discussions with local medical authorities. For three years now an integrated program has been operated successfully at Hidden Valley.

The great problems and emergencies, which some people

in the camping field predicted would plague the camp, simply did not appear. Hidden Valley continued on its previous course, almost unaffected by the addition of the new type of camper. A few minor changes included: ramps to help handicapped children enter buildings; a medical advisory board to select the handicapped campers; counselors' orientation on the nature of the handicaps and their effects on the children; special care to provide a wide variety of informal and simply organized activities for campers to choose from. This was the extent of the "reorganization."

### The Camp Program

What activities are most important? How are the braces broken? Only an incomplete answer can be given here.

The center of physical activities at Hidden Valley is the concrete swimming pool. As at many camps which handle the eight- to eleven-year-old group, the waterfront is a mecca for the campers all day long. The children can never get their fill of swimming and diving. This is particularly advantageous to a camp such as Hidden Valley, since physical handicaps are often minimized in the water, and many crippled children have had extensive training in swimming as part of their rehabilitation. Moreover, a pool area is more easily supervised than is a beach or dock.

A morning half-hour of individual instruction for each child is followed in the afternoon by an hour-long recreational swim. At the conclusion of the two-week camping period, a water carnival of stunts and races is held. Throughout the period, all campers have an opportunity to earn Red Cross swimming cards or Hidden Valley cards for effort and achievement in swimming. Almost every camper receives one of these awards, or enjoys one of the prizes from the carnival. It has been noted that handicapped campers receive considerably more than their proportionate share of the rewards. The only Red Cross Swimmer's Award issued at camp in three years was given to a severely cerebral-palsied boy whose gait on land was considerably hampered.

Both handicapped and able-bodied children profit from

"Come one, come all. Try your luck!" A country carnival or circus is a sure hit in camp of any kind.



**JOHN D. HERZOG** is director of Camp Hidden Valley in Ridgefield, Connecticut.

the arts and crafts program at the camp. In keeping with the age and often meager background of the children, activities offered are simple, yet diverse. Claywork, painting of all kinds, leatherwork, papier-mâché, simple woodworking, and other crafts can be enjoyed by both types of children. The joy of a spastic cerebral-palsied child in creating something attractive is a wonder to behold, not only to the adults but to amazed and attentive tentmates as well.

### Advantages of Small Group Living

"Let 'em loose!" was the gist of the doctor's directions to the camp staff, and the staff takes the doctor's advice to heart. Disabled children are not treated roughly or expected to do things beyond their actual capacities, or deprived of the understanding counsel of an adult when they need it. But they are treated as much like able-bodied kids their age as is possible. Many of them come to Hidden Valley directly from a hospital or long clinical treatment. Even more come from homes in which they are overprotected, in which the parents do not believe that their children can perform many of the physical or social activities of a normal child, and in which they are pampered and deprived of contact with normal children their own age. The doctors recommend encouraging these children to do everything they can for themselves, and the camp follows this prescription.

It is in this respect that Hidden Valley's program of outdoor living, of emphasis on hiking and camping out, and of insistence that the tent group of five children and a counselor be the basic unit of camp life, makes its greatest contribution. All the children live in tents spread out over the camp grounds, and each group is responsible for the care and maintenance of its own tent and the area around it. Each group plans the biggest part of its own day to use the facilities of the camp and surrounding area in a way which fits its interests and abilities. In such planning, the interests and occasional limitations of the handicapped children must be recognized by the group. On the other hand, the handicapped children cannot voluntarily withdraw themselves from activities in which they lack the confidence, but not the ability, to participate. The strong ties of the group keep the able-bodied children aware of the needs and capacities of each of its members, and stimulate the handicapped children to attempt feats heretofore not considered.

Thus it is not unusual to observe a group planning a hike, or an overnight trip to the Poundridge Reservation, discussing the physical obstacles of the trip and the ability of each member to overcome them. Arrangements are made for an

**Concrete pool is a popular center of activities, especially when a gala water carnival is on the program.**



equitable sharing of the supplies to be carried, for the selection of an appropriate route to follow, and, rarely, for special transportation of a particular handicapped child.

In the same way, softball or volleyball teams are picked, and rules are altered to permit specific individuals to participate fairly. In all of these activities, an arm or a leg brace may be scraped, but no serious injuries to handicapped campers have occurred in three years of Hidden Valley experience. It seems clear that handicapped children are no more fragile, nor more susceptible to injuries or illnesses, than are able-bodied children of the same age.

In all of this group planning and "creative bargaining," the importance of the counselor must not be minimized. Boys and girls between eight and eleven are not able to manage such affairs without the aid of an adult; but within each child are potentialities for cooperation and consideration for others, even in the unusual circumstances imposed by the presence of handicapped children in the group. The counselor must draw upon these capacities to help his children profit to the fullest from their two weeks at camp.

### The Goals of the Integrated Program

What does Hidden Valley hope to accomplish by mixing the handicapped and able-bodied children? Certainly no physical or occupational therapy is attempted. Rather, the two-week experience is seen as an aid in *social* rehabilitation, as an education for handicapped children in how to get along with "normal" contemporaries and in the contributions they can make to a normal society, and as an experience for able-bodied youngsters in getting to know children whose handicaps appear strange to them.

About eighty boys and girls are accommodated at the camp for four two-week periods each summer. In order to insure that the tone and pace of the camp be that of a normal one, a limit of thirty per cent or forty per cent of handicapped children in each encampment is aimed for. Handicapped children who are accepted must have developed stamina sufficient to allow them to go through their two-week experience without undue fatigue or recurrent illness, and must be able to perform their personal toilet functions as well as other children their age. With the aid of the fund's medical advisory board, virtually all those finally accepted have been able to stay for the full two-week period, and almost all have apparently benefited from the experience.

Hidden Valley conceives of itself as a pioneer in providing social rehabilitation for physically handicapped children. Few camps operate a like program on a regular basis. Certainly the need of these children for a supervised yet vigorous program of recreation with normal peers is obvious. The enthusiastic support of many rehabilitation experts for the Hidden Valley idea of integrated camping makes the Fresh Aid Fund believe that it is doing a necessary, important piece of work.

It is to be hoped that this incomplete report of experiences in one summer camp may persuade directors and executives of other camps to attempt an "experiment" of their own in admitting handicapped children. They will find that careful planning in advance will avoid confusion and difficulties, as it has at Hidden Valley. *c+s*



# Howdy Pardner

## Welcome to Denver

Hope you're looking forward to our Buffalo Bar-B-Q. Not to brag, but we dish up a friendly mess of vittles off a chuck wagon. Folks like it real good.

**E**DGAR ANSEL MOWRER, often called the most distinguished and best qualified of all reporters on world affairs, will address the evening general session of the National Recreation Congress on Thursday, September 29, 1955. Mr. Mowrer will speak on the importance of the self-reliant individual who finds both stability and initiative in himself, thereby making himself capable both of providing and of making the most of his recreation.

Mr. Mowrer has been a contributor to American and foreign journals for many years. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 1933 for a series of articles on Germany. His best known books are *Germany Puts Back the Clock*, *The Nightmare of American Foreign Policy*, and *Challenge and Decision*. He has visited Russia and has made three prolonged trips to the Far East. His columns, "Edgar Ansel Mowrer on World Affairs" and "What's Your Question?" appear in leading journals throughout the country.

Joseph Prendergast, executive director of the National Recreation Association, will address the Wednesday morning general session of the Congress. As reported last month in RECREATION, Dr. A. S. Raubenheimer, educational vice-president of the University of Southern California, will address the Tuesday evening session on creative aspects of our recreation programs.

More and more details of the Congress program are becoming definite, including the outline of the whole week's program on the opposite page.

Delegates will note a slight change on the opening day of the Congress—Tuesday instead of Monday, this year—when there will be a general convening session at 10:00 A.M. This session will be followed for the balance of the morning and all afternoon by the all-day sessions which have become traditional on the first day of the Congress.

Climax of the Congress will be the Buffalo Bar-B-Q, now being planned by Denverites. It will be held in the Red Rocks Mountain Park, sixteen miles southwest of Denver, on Friday evening following the afternoon tour of recreation points of interest in and around the city.

## Demonstrations

Interest in demonstrations was so great at St. Louis last year that special efforts are being made to make the Denver program also outstanding in this regard. In addition to Dr. Frederick Hall, who will conduct demonstrations involving music (see RECREATION, May, 1955), Bob Smith, Denver's coordinator of music (see RECREATION, May, 1955), will also help in this field. Lester Griswold of nearby Colorado Springs, a noted craftsman and author (see page 270, this issue of RECREATION), will lead in the field of arts and crafts. Helen Dauncey and Anne Livingston of the National Recreation Association training staff will be on hand to help with social recreation. The American Junior Bowling Congress will conduct a bowling clinic through special arrangements with a bowling alley, located near the Congress, which has the latest equipment, including automatic pinsetters. Plans are also under way for demonstrations in several other fields,

## Special Features

A Western square dance for all Congress delegates will follow Dr. Raubenheimer's Tuesday evening address and social dancing will be featured after Mr. Mowrer's address on Thursday evening. Instead of a general session on Wednesday evening, the Congress will follow the plan used at St. Louis last year and schedule instead several special features, as indicated on the chart.

## Accommodations

As reported in RECREATION for April, all hotel reservations will be handled this year by the Denver Convention and Visitors Bureau, 225 West Colfax. Congress headquarters will be the Hotel Shirley-Savoy, and meetings will also be held at the Cosmopolitan and Brown Palace Hotels. All three hotels are within a block of each other. If your reservations have not yet been made you should get in touch with the Bureau.

## Pamphlet Ready

The *Congress Preliminary Pamphlet* is available. If you have not received a copy you can get one by requesting it. The official program will not be available until the Con-



**Edgar Ansel Mowrer,**  
noted author-journalist,  
to be Congress speaker.

gress registration desk opens at Denver on September 26. Many delegates find the preliminary pamphlet most important in planning in advance of the Congress just which meetings and special features they will attend. It also makes it possible for several delegates from the same city to plan in advance to divide up certain meetings so that the important ones will all be covered.

### Training Values

The value of a congress or conference to staff development and stimulation of thinking is illustrated by the following few quotes from letters of delegates who attended the National Recreation Congress in St. Louis:

"Recreation leaders in the city, after having an opportunity for contact with other recreationists throughout the country, developed a much more favorable attitude toward their work and their responsibilities. They found that the recreation field was filled with outstanding people and learned that competition for positions of recreation leadership is becoming increasingly severe."

"This contact with others in the field, added incentive to improvement both in quality of leadership and in program content. Our people had an opportunity to comprehend the importance of recreation work. They felt a renewed pride in being recreation leaders and as a result their esprit de corps became much more highly developed."

"Enclosed is a clipping from our local paper explaining a program which was inspired at the St. Louis national conference. After listening to Dr. D. N. Campbell's talk, which so forcibly brought home the fact that something should be done to meet existing needs, we set in motion the organizing of the senior citizens' group—as thirty per cent of our population are senior citizens."

"As a church worker I found a lot of ideas that can be used in youth programs."

"To me it was a great time and I, especially, am going to be a better worker because of it. Everybody helped everybody."

"I found many things in the commercial exhibits that I have been wanting, and was able to place orders for them. I thought an especially fine part of the commercial setup was the arrangement for the display of publications and the opportunity to order publications from a National Recreation Association representative at the Congress."

## Tentative Congress Week Outline

DAY	9:00—10:30 A.M.	11:00 A.M.—12:30 P.M.	LUNCHEON	2:30—4:00 P.M.	4:15—5:45 P.M.	EVENING
TUESDAY Sept. 27	CONVENING OF CONGRESS 10:00 A.M.	ALL-DAY MEETINGS	Administrative Problems of Chief Executives Recreation for Business and Industrial Workers Recreation in Correctional Institutions Recreation in Hospitals Town-Country Recreation Senior Citizens (afternoon only) Servicemen—Programs for Servicemen's Recreation Centers (morning only) Social Recreation Training Session			GENERAL SESSION 8:30 P.M.  CONGRESS WESTERN SQUARE DANCE
WEDNESDAY Sept. 28	SECTION MEETINGS Families at Play Financing Expanding Programs Graduate Education Program Clinic School-Recreation Relationships Supervisors Workshop I Swimming Pools	GENERAL SESSION	GROUP LUNCHEONS	SECTION MEETINGS Legislation Neighborhood and Community Councils Playgrounds I Recreation Research Salaries Supervisors Workshop II Teen-Agers	SPECIAL FEATURES National Committees Bowling Clinic Pet Ideas Activity Demonstrations & Workshops Recreation in Hospitals	SPECIAL FEATURES 8:00 — 9:30 P.M. Recreation in Hospitals Problems of Volunteers National Committees Social Recreation Training Session Activity Demonstrations & Workshops
THURSDAY Sept. 29	SECTION MEETINGS Areas and Facilities Workshop Boards and Commissions I Church Recreation Playgrounds II Pre-Teen Sports Public Relations State Recreation Services	SPECIAL FEATURES Old Timers Round Table National Committees Activity Demonstrations & Workshops		SECTION MEETINGS Boards and Commissions II Desegregation Decisions of the Courts Fringe Areas Girls and Women In-Service Training National and State Recreation Areas Recreation Buildings I	SPECIAL FEATURES Public Relations (continued) Baseball-Softball Insurance Problems Maintenance Swapshop National Committees Activity Demonstrations & Workshops	GENERAL SESSION 8:30 P.M.  DANCING
FRIDAY Sept. 30	SECTION MEETINGS International Recreation Juvenile Delinquency Long-Range Planning Recreation Buildings II Recreation-Park Depts. Small Town Problems Sports	GENERAL SESSION	GROUP LUNCHEONS	Tour of Recreation Points of Interest In And Near Denver.		Buffalo Bar-B-Q at Red Rocks Mountain Park  Denver Show
SATURDAY Oct. 1	SPECIAL FEATURES Tour to Colorado Springs Spot Tours in Denver Arrangements will be made for workshops through noon at the request of delegates.			NOTE: Topics are abbreviated on this chart. For full wording write to T. E. Rivers, Congress Secretary, for a copy of the preliminary pamphlet.		

# Creating An Art-Minded Community ... at Oglebay

Edwin M. Steckel

The community service program at Oglebay Institute, Wheeling, West Virginia, exposes participants to the cultural arts in intriguing and irresistible ways.

A CASUAL SUMMER visitor to Oglebay Park might easily wander down to the lake and find a group of youngsters eagerly sketching ducks. Beyond, over the next hill, a complacent group of ladies in large sun hats might stand before easels, their brushes reproducing the contours of the children's story-telling tower. And on the very top of a hill, the visitor quite naturally would be lured to the old red brick carriage barn. It dates from 1845, but its present day contents are contemporary paintings and sculpture. An art exhibit is always under way in this charming old building.

Our Oglebay Institute art department serves a large tri-state area with an art program and exhibitions in a city that does not support an art gallery. We function as both a gallery and an art institute. During the summer months our carriage barn gallery is sometimes shared with a theatre group, but the walls are never barren.

Our summer gallery possesses all the

charm of a New England barn, and our work is definitely avant-garde. One-man shows of sculpture, painting, and ceramics and jewelry change weekly. Each Sunday afternoon features a formal opening and the serving of punch for the visiting artists, patrons, and art lovers. Some Sundays we present a portrait painting demonstration or the fascinating assemblage of a mobile. Exhibitors are invited by the art committee and include both local and nationally famous artists.

The month of September gives way to the Annual Regional Artists' Show, at which time both the carriage barn and the historic Mansion Museum yield their walls for this big event. The competitive show is open to all painters from West Virginia and eastern Ohio, and former West Virginia residents. An entry fee is required and cash prizes are awarded. A well-known artist and critic is selected for the one-man jury.

On lovely evenings, when music lovers come for an outdoor concert in the

amphitheater, they see a painting exhibit in the Oglebay Park formal gardens. Placed among trees and by the side of a pool, and highly dramatized by artificial lighting, this show is warmly received by the audience, both before the performance and at intermission.

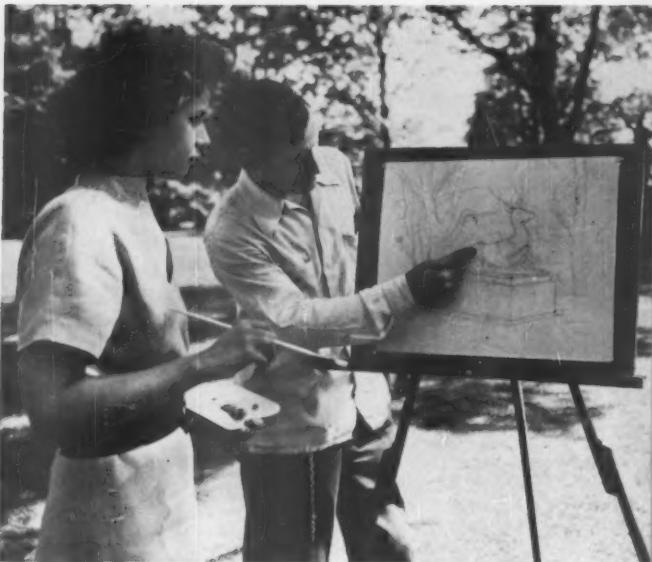
Art for children is one of our pet projects. We have incorporated an art program into the Oglebay Institute Day Camp which runs for an eight-week period during the summer. At least three hundred children receive art instruction and are able to benefit from experimentation in various media.

A novel spring event is the special exhibition held for children. The rustic setting of the children's center for an outdoor display delights children and adults alike. Paintings, ceramic sculpture, and other creative media are selected largely from the institute's winter art classes.

Each June, for just one day, we tear ourselves away from the idyllic setting of the hills and move en masse to a quaint old market place in South Wheeling. A Parisian Left-Bank flavor hovers over the fruit and vegetable stalls which provide a decorative setting for the canvasses of hundreds of

*"1955 brings us to the 25th year of Oglebay Institute's existence as a community service organization. We are very mindful of the fine cooperation which the National Recreation Association made in helping us all through these years beginning with L. H. Weir and coming right on down through the line to the present administration, Mr. Prendergast."*

—EDWIN M. STECKEL.



"Regularly scheduled art classes, leadership training, lectures, and special events build art-minded communities," declares the Oglebay Institute's art committee.

MR. STECKEL is the executive director of Oglebay Institute.



**Successful special events include art shows for children and adults, one-man shows, evenings of lecture-demonstrations, noted guest artists, and art auctions.**

painters. All local artists respond enthusiastically to this annual "Bohemian" art show. It is the day for painters—amateurs and professionals. Two years ago, not a few civic-minded folk were horrified at the idea of an exhibit in an old market in a none-too-elegant section of the city. Now the colorful event is anticipated by the whole city.

In winter our exhibition walls are the mezzanine of the town's largest hotel. A small downtown center for arts and crafts provides facilities and space for capacity-filled classes. The art department must concentrate on the tremendous demand for painting inspired by the summer exhibition series. The crafts department offers adult classes in enamel on copper, basketry, ceramics, jewelry, and leather. On Saturdays, art classes are given for children from six to twelve years old. Adult classes in charcoal drawing and oil painting are conducted in the evenings for beginning and advanced students.

During our winter season, which officially begins in October and ends in March, at least two weekly art programs are presented before community groups. We use the media of television and illustrated lectures. Our programs are built around "Art in Everyday Life" with the purpose of making art understandable and to awaken the public to

the importance of aesthetic satisfaction. We are especially devoted to contemporary art and its counterparts, and have met a real challenge: to convey its significance to an industrial community also steeped in tradition.

#### **Opera Program**

A student at the Oglebay opera workshop is literally saturated with all phases of opera from morning until night for fourteen days. The period of two weeks was selected principally with the idea of accommodating singers who are engaged in other work throughout the year and want to spend their two-week vacations in ideal surroundings and live opera.

The workshop provides an opportunity for study of all phases of opera under noted artists and teachers in one of nature's best-equipped beauty spots. Two weeks in this environment provides inspiration to young singers, as well as to experienced artists wishing to refresh their technique vocally, musically and dramatically. Teachers in other opera workshops who wish to derive inspiration and acquire the latest methods are also invited to enroll.

Workshop students in 1955 will be given an opportunity to appear in an "Opera Night" and in an "Oratorio Night" featuring selections from stand-

ard oratorios. In addition to the public performances on the outdoor stage, "Workshop Recitals," based on the material used from standard operas, will be given in the more intimate Carriage House Theatre.

Boris Goldovsky, founder and director of the opera workshop, will again serve as artistic director this year from August 22 through September 5. In addition to his duties as director of the opera department of the New England Conservatory of Music, director of the Berkshire Festival operatic productions at Tanglewood for several years, and as a regular participant in the Saturday afternoon Metropolitan Opera broadcasts, Mr. Goldovsky is artistic director of the New England Opera Theater.

Leonard W. Treash, director of the opera department of the Eastman School of Music will serve as associate director. During the summers of 1953-54, Mr. Treash produced the opera series for the famed Rochester "Opera Under the Stars" program. He is founder and director of the Buffalo, New York, opera workshop. In addition to Mr. Goldovsky and Mr. Treash, the opera workshop's staff of instructors will be augmented by several vocal coaches.

Besides its diversified program of formal entertainment, Oglebay Park provides all the features normally expected of a park: picnic sites, an archery range, horseback riding, golf, tennis, swimming, nature trails, a garden center, a zoo. Oglebay Institute provides leadership and opportunities in arts and crafts, drama and children's theatre, nature education, radio, audio-visual aids, museums, hobby clubs, vespers, summer concerts, and camps (including folk dance, nature, and drum major). In 1954 more than 200,000 people participated in institute-sponsored programs.

The 1954 opera workshop drew participants from fifteen states. Registration is limited to thirty-five full-time students, in order to insure maximum individual attention. Students are housed in rustic log cabins with all modern conveniences. Applications may be obtained by writing Opera Workshop, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia. *ess*



# Outdoor Recreation and an Adventure

Near New Jersey's Large Metropolitan Areas

Ernest Buff, Jr.

**U**NUSUAL ADVANTAGES and opportunities for healthful, outdoor recreation are available a surprisingly short distance from the densely populated metropolitan areas of New York City and Philadelphia.

New Jersey, although far better known for its seashore resorts, is bounded by rivers, and offers many fresh water lakes generously sprinkled across the state. The challenge of the woods and waterways in spring, summer, and fall awaits those who appreciate the generosity of nature in providing such ample resources so close at hand. The state's fine highways make distances seem even shorter for transportation of hiker, camper, skier, canoeist, small-boat sailor, or just picnicker, with all of the paraphernalia necessary for his particular recreation.

Each year, at the end of May, the

Delaware River, above Port Jervis, New York (just over the New Jersey border) is visited by hundreds of canoe and fold-boat enthusiasts, bent on their annual downstream cruise over this beautiful waterway. From Hancock, New York, to Port Jervis, a distance of eighty and a half miles by water, there is a series of sixteen major and thirty-five minor rapids. The challenge of turbulent "white waters" rushing through rocks and boulders, with long, connecting stretches of black water snaking quietly but swiftly between green-clad hills, past miles of forest covered shore, where azalea and rhododendron in all their spring glory abound, is inviting to the canoeist. At this time of year, the waters of the Delaware are at their best, with sufficient depth and flow to afford passage over all the rapids, providing the proper course is followed and natural obstacles avoided.

## The Trip

This was the trip a group of men and boys from Bernardsville, New Jersey, made over a recent Memorial Day weekend. Plans for the trek were formulated during the winter months. Actual

preparation began in the YMCA swimming pool at nearby Morristown, where each of the boys was required to pass a rigid swimming test, including a demonstration of his ability to swim a specified distance fully clothed.

Menus were planned; and lists of clothing (a minimum of three changes), bedding, tenting, and other necessary equipment were prepared. A map of the river section to be navigated was delineated to the scale of one inch to the mile, and photostat copies were made for each member of the party.

Several weeks before the scheduled date, an overnight campout was conducted for the review and practice of camping skills, and to give instruction in canoe handling in rapids, as the majority of the party had had little or no previous experience in this activity. The small lake near which the practice camp was made had no rapids, so rock obstacles and "white waters" were simulated simply by throwing bits of grass and dandelions on the water and plying the canoes between them.

Arrangements were made to borrow five aluminum canoes from the local Boy Scout council. However, canoes can be rented for such expeditions from several sports equipment stores in the state.

At last the grand day arrived. The party of seven boys (ages fourteen through fifteen) and five adults with canoes and camp gear were transported across state in four automobiles, canoes lashed carefully on carrying racks topside. By eleven o'clock the canoes were at the water's edge, ready for the journey's start. Permission to embark had, of course, been obtained from the local constabulary.

The four car operators then drove automobiles to Callicoon, New York, twenty-four miles to the south, where the first evening's camp was to be made. Arrangements were made for the use of the campsite, and, following this, three of the drivers left their cars and returned in the automobile of the fourth driver to Hancock. The one-man "land party" for that day then returned to Callicoon to set up camp and await the arrival of the party by canoe.

All equipment to be taken in the canoes, including canteens, sponge rub-

**MR. BUFF, a landscape architect and park planner, has worked extensively with both federal and state agencies and commissions on the planning and development of equipment, facilities, and areas for recreation on both public and private properties.**

ber kneeling pads, cellulose bailing sponges, extra paddles, and cameras, were secured to thwarts and gunwales, in the event of a capsize. Nylon parachute cord was used for this purpose. Cameras, wallets, and other valuables were carefully wrapped and bound in sheets of water-proof plastic.

A packaged lunch was hastily eaten, and the crews manned their canoes for the downstream journey. The lead canoe was manned by two adults, one of whom was an experienced paddler and familiar with the course. Following came canoes two, three, and four (all identified by large numerals of adhesive strips on bow and stern), with the remaining two adult leaders at the rear of the procession, to keep a semblance of a line and to encourage the laggards.

By pre-arrangement, and in the fashion of the earlier woodsmen and explorers, the signal that rapids were being approached was to be given by the experienced helmsman in the lead canoe. Direction signals were also to be given by him with his paddle. Allowing ample space between, the other canoes followed the course set by the leader.

This stretch of the Delaware seems ideal for trips of this kind, with a series of minor rapids—sufficiently spaced to allow for the recovery of composure and the regrouping of the canoes in the quieter waters between—during the earlier stages of the journey, the more difficult rapids coming later. After a few scrapings of canoe bottoms and other slight mishaps, in the preliminary engagements with the moderate rapids first encountered, the boys soon acquired some water sense, and filed through the swiftly rushing waters between the rocks with little disturbance.

The first major rapids, encountered at Hankins, toward the end of the initial day's run, were successfully but thrillingly navigated by all. A few miles further camp was reached, where the canoes were lifted from the water and placed, bottoms up, on shore. Wet sneakers and other clothing were changed for dry apparel, and after a hearty, hot meal, principal preparations for which had been made by the one-man land party, everyone retired for a well-earned rest.

On the second day, the auto drivers

proceeded to Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania, with the tents and other weighty camp equipment. Repeating the previous day's performance, but with a different adult taking his turn at land party operations, the men returned in one car to Callicoon, where embarkation was made for the second leg of the journey, and an exciting day it was.

At Skinner's Falls the group met with what are probably considered the most challenging and exciting rapids of the entire course. Here the canoes were beached above the rapids, in order that the crews might reconnoiter afoot and observe other canoes and foldboats making the hazardous passage. Several of these craft swamped and even overturned in the turbulent, churning torrents, but without mishap to the occupants who prudently hung to the sides of their boats until more placid waters were reached. After rigid instructions regarding the course to be followed, and other last minute admonitions, the leader with his partner made a demonstration descent of the rapids, the remainder of the expedition watching carefully from shore. Then, one after another, the canoes manned by the boys and other adults shot through without mishap. Paddling to the shore below, the boys were so thrilled by their experiences that they wanted to try again.

Lifting their light aluminum canoes over the boulder-strewn shore line to a point above the rapids, one crew soon shot out into the fast moving current for a second try. In a bold but more careless mood, and contrary to the leader's instructions, they veered too far into the center of the river where the water was far more turbulent than near the shore. Their recent but limited experience was not sufficient for them to cope with the predicament in which suddenly they found themselves. Their canoe shipped splashing water and turned broadside to the current. The boys soon lost control as the torrents poured into the now listing, rolling and sluggish craft. Amid shouts filled more with glee than despair, the canoe swamped beneath the foaming waters as they continued their wet passage downriver.

Within seconds the leader's canoe sprang across the stream to their rescue, and soon many hands from the crafts



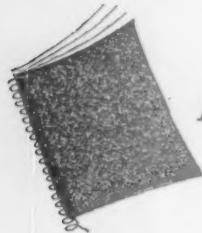
Delaware River above Port Jervis offers canoeist "white water" challenge.

waiting in the more still water below were assisting the boys. Soon they were on shore, damp but undaunted. In accordance with previous and emphatic ruling by the chief of the party, the boys were returned to camp by the driver on shore duty, who had come to watch the fun. Dry clothes but no more paddling for the capsizers was the law that day.

Several of the other crews shot the rapids repeatedly, without apparent difficulty, but always in the course described by the leader. With two-thirds of the day's journey ahead, the trip was now resumed. By use of a two-blade paddle, fashioned by lashing the shafts of two single-blade paddles together, one adult in the canoe vacated by the absent boys easily kept pace with the party for the balance of the distance to camp.

On the third day, many more major rapids were passed; however, although they extended over longer lengths, none were considered as dangerous as the one at Skinner's Falls. The higher altitude of the surrounding hills afforded more magnificent and climatic scenery for this last stage of a wonderful and never-to-be-forgotten trip.

A sandy beach had been selected as the point for the disembarkation at Port Jervis, near where the automobiles had been parked in the morning. The little flotilla landed on schedule, and after dry apparel had been donned, and canoes slung and secured to car racks, the party proceeded to a restaurant for their evening meal before traveling homeward. The over-all charges of the entire trip had not exceeded five dollars per person, which included the cost of gasoline and food. *\*\*\**



## A REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

### Ruby Cook — Distinguished Citizen



Mrs. Ruby Cook receives the Distinguished Citizen Award from Miss Shirley Twyford, toastmistress, at the Venture Club Award dinner.

The Distinguished Citizen Award from the Venture Club of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, was awarded to Mrs. Ruby Cook, executive director of the Crispus Attucks Community Center. The award was presented to Mrs. Cook for her outstanding work at the Center and for her promotion of greater understanding among the religious and racial groups of Lancaster. Readers of RECREATION will remember the article, "A Volunteer Success Story," about Mrs. Cook's excellent use of volunteers, in the May, 1950 issue.

### Julian O. Olsen Honored

The award of a gold key has been made to Mr. Julian O. Olsen, superintendent of recreation, Pensacola, Florida, for meritorious service to recreation in the five-state Southeastern Recreation Association area. Mr. Olsen was appointed as Pensacola's first full-time city recreation director in 1945, and has been in recreation work since 1914.

### Ernest W. Johnson to Retire

After thirty-six years of work in the recreation movement, Ernest W. Johnson is retiring as director of public recreation in St. Paul, Minnesota. During his years of service, Mr. Johnson helped St. Paul grow from seven playground areas to fifty-eight. The staff of the recreation department has grown from three people to its present size of seventy. Mr. Robert Lobdell of Evansville, Indiana, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Johnson.

### Constructive Teen-Age Activity

Sponsoring of a Korean boy to enable him to attend Central Oregon Community College, at Bend, Oregon, has been decided on by Bend's Teen-Age Recreation Council. A scholarship was secured, a home with free board and lodging found, and \$150 toward transportation has been raised by various projects.

### Family Swimming Pool Clubs

Small, intimate family clubs centering around swimming pools are a recent development in Houston, Texas. Often children are left at the pools during the day and wives return later with their husbands for an evening dip. Family membership through October 1 is \$65 and membership is limited to three hundred families. Hamilton H. Anderson, a swimming pool contractor, said that each year contractors are building about three times as many pools as the previous year.

### Does Your Town Want A Pool?

If so, you will be interested in the way Millinocket, Maine, went about getting one. First of all, the citizens had to want a pool enough to pitch in and work for one. A local factory supplied machinery free of charge, and men of the community worked evenings on the

excavation. Concrete pouring was done by local men, who do this for each other when building new houses. The piping was done by plumbers from the factory. The total cost of the project to taxpayers of Millinocket was \$4,323.16 or \$2.88 per taxpayer.

### Hans Christian Anderson Anniversary

One hundred and fifty years ago, April 2, 1805, the beloved author was born in Odense, Denmark. Among celebrations in his honor are: an exhibit in the Library of Congress, April 2—July 31, exhibits and story hours in all New York Public Library branches, a Hans Christian Anderson statue and story-telling center scheduled for presentation next October. This bronze statue, designed by Georg Lober, is the gift of the children of Denmark to the children of America and will be in New York City's Central Park.

### American Baseball Big Hit in Saigon

The people of Saigon, Indochina, have been introduced to American baseball. The introduction included play-by-play announcements in Vietnamese and French and mimeographed explanations of the game in these languages. The U.S. Information Agency supplied the details to the local population in response to newspaper requests for information about how this "great American game" is played. Great interest built up and there was a large crowd when the first game got under way. Spectator response was spirited but lagged behind sometimes after a play until the watchers checked their programs or were told



"Yes—but what could we play?"

Cartoon by Corka. Reprinted with permission from *Today's Health*, August 1954.



### Outstanding Student

George Wilson, left, accepts congratulations from Bob Abbuehl, banquet toastmaster, on receiving the 1955 Weir Award.

George Wilson, doctoral candidate in recreation at Indiana University, has received the L. H. Weir Award for being the outstanding graduate student at the university. Mr. Wilson is president of the Graduate Recreation Society. He serves on the administrative staff of the Milwaukee Recreation Department.

in Vietnamese what had happened. The game was played between officers and men of the U.S.S. *Estes* and staff members of the Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG). About \$228 was raised for Vietnamese refugees.

#### 1955 Intergroup and Human Relations Workshops

The National Conference of Christians and Jews will cooperate, through the Commission on Educational Organizations, with thirty-six colleges and universities in various states in the conducting of intergroup and human relations education workshops this summer. Since 1941 the National Conference has worked with more than two hundred workshops. For full information, write nearest National Conference office or communicate with Dr. Herbert L. Seamans, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York.

#### Facts and Figures

**Wisconsin:** Columbus voters have approved council action to build a \$60,000 swimming pool, and a \$300,000 bond issue to build a swimming pool has been approved by Menasha voters. Linden voters have authorized an issuance of bonds for a village community building.

**Illinois:** Evanston voters have approved a \$425,000 issuance of bonds for construction of a community building.

**West Virginia:** A \$2,500,000 program of development for state parks and forests will start now that the state legislature has passed a bill legalizing the issuance of a revenue bond issue.

**Minnesota:** Bloomington approved a \$450,000 bond issue for acquisition of park and recreation lands; and a swim-

ming pool bond issue was approved at Appleton. Circle Pines has agreed to a \$100,000 issue for a community building.

**Indiana:** A bond ordinance of \$165,000 for capital improvements of the La Porte park system has passed.

**Alabama:** 1,700 acres for new park development have been given to the state.

**California:** A \$32,500,000 bond issue has been approved for schools. Of this, several millions will be used for gymnasiums, swimming pools, and other recreational facilities.

**Iowa:** Sioux City Recreation Department made available public address systems, program materials, movie projectors, handcraft and picnic equipment, costumes, books and records to public and private organizations. These services reached 292 organizations, 44,120 participants, 16,380 spectators.

#### Cooperation for Recreation

The East Orange, New Jersey, Board of Recreation Commissioners, realizing that the city has few suitable properties available for playground or park

use, has adopted a policy of cooperating with the East Orange Board of Education to develop existing recreation property. Several such areas have already been completed with facilities that can be used for both summer and winter activities. Many more areas are planned to provide playing fields, roller skating and younger children's apparatus.

#### Safety Pamphlet

A pamphlet on safety in sports and other recreational activities, with contributions from leading athletes and authorities on sports, is now available. For copies write to: Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

#### An Excellent Report

The fiftieth anniversary booklet of the Winnetka, Illinois, Park District contains fine illustrations and good presentation. Entitled "This is Yours . . .," the brochure shows townspeople enjoying the various facilities available to them, gives information about the parks and lists plans for future projects.

#### How To Make It Pamphlet

The revised edition of *How To Make It*, a bibliography of free and inexpensive booklets on arts and crafts, is available for fifty cents. Copies may be obtained by writing to: Curriculum Laboratory, Temple University, Philadelphia 22, Pennsylvania.

#### Vinal Book Again Available

*Nature Recreation* by William G. (Cap'n Bill) Vinal, out of print for some time, is now available from American Humane Education Society, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15, Massachusetts. The price is \$3.50.

## REMINDER...

### *America's Finest Athletic Equipment*

IS BUILT BY

»»» **VOIT** ®

New York 11, Chicago 10, Los Angeles 11

*"An instrument for the future"*



The campsite provides a panorama of mountain and plain. Entrance portal donated by Kiwanis.

## NEW CAMP in Colorado Springs

Lester Griswold

**T**his is the story of a youth service project achieved by a community through the joint efforts of twenty service clubs and civic organizations cooperating to provide a campsite equipped with facilities for overnight camping. Located within a few miles of Colorado Springs, it is readily accessible to local groups and convenient for sightseeing visitors.

The development of a suitable site for overnight camping in the Pikes Peak region had long been desired by the leaders of youth-serving agencies in the community to meet the needs of local boys and girls and to provide essential facilities for visiting youth, traveling with their own equipment on educational or pioneering trips.

It was recognized that preparedness for outdoor living, as taught and practiced by scouting and other youth organizations throughout the free world, develops both self-reliance and concepts of cooperation for the good of all—which later determines attitudes of citizenship. In addition to acquisition of camping skills and the adjustments of team work, boys and girls are entitled, according to all good leaders of youth, to the lasting satisfactions of the experience of group associations in a natural environment, where the sharing of responsibility and the recognition of the abilities of each camper—regardless of his

home background—has a character-building value inherent in no other activity.

The youth-serving agencies of Colorado Springs heartily supported the Palmer Park plan as a means of bringing camping experience within reach of many youth who could not attend the seasonal camps of the region because of limited means, family responsibilities, or other reasons.

Prior to 1954, camping in any of the municipal parks of Colorado Springs was forbidden. The nearest public campground was at Manitou Park, fifteen miles distant, in the Pike National Forest where available space is always crowded. Annually, for several years, Boy Scout troops, traveling by bus to Philmont, the National Boy Scout ranch at Cimarron, New Mexico, were unable to spend planned time in the Pikes Peak region because of the necessity of camping at Manitou Park or going forty-two miles to the Pikes Peak Council's Camp Alexander at Lake George. For many youth groups limited time prevented use of either site and the local YMCA and YWCA provided gymnasium space where bedrolls and sleeping bags could be used. Only very limited shower and toilet facilities were available beyond the normal requirements of these buildings for their members and visitors.

The camping committee of the Pikes Peak Council Boy Scouts made a prolonged search for a suitable campsite accessible to Colorado Springs. Many privately-owned sites were considered and rejected because of various inadequacies or prohibitive cost. Finally the committee decided to seek the approval of the city council for the development

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LESTER GRISWOLD is a member of the park and recreation board in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the author of arts and crafts publications. He was active in the initial promotion and support of this community project.

of an area in Palmer Park, a natural woodland situated in the foothills known as Austin Bluffs five miles east of the city. They prepared a statement of the need for a youth camp and referred it to the park and recreation board. On the recommendation of this board the city council approved the committee's development plan and amended the city ordinance to permit this restricted type of overnight camping in the designated area of about fifty acres.

This park consists of over seven hundred acres of wood-ed mesa land broken with spectacular rock formations—geological remnants of the sedimentary formation (Dawson Arcose Sandstone) which existed before the upthrust of the mountains. General Palmer, founder of Colorado Springs, who gave the park to the city, had constructed twenty-three miles of trails for hiking or horseback riding. With an unsurpassed view of the Rampart Range of the Rocky Mountains, a part of the Front Range, dominated by Pikes Peak, Palmer Park provides a panorama of mountain and plain which extends nearly one hundred miles in each direction, north and south.

With the approval of the city council for the over-all plan, the committee was then reorganized to include representatives from the six women's service clubs and the fourteen men's service clubs, the recreation and leisure-time division (youth-serving agencies) of the Community Council, the American Legion, Junior Chamber of Commerce and the park and recreation board. With their enthusiastic support, the development plan was undertaken and the Palmer Park Youth Camp became a community-sponsored project. Initial construction was started in May, 1953.

At the dedication on February 14, 1954, Mayor Harry C. Blunt said in part, in accepting the camp for the city, "This camp is unique in many respects, especially for the fine opportunities it offers for youth and for its strategic location . . . and will make Colorado Springs a scheduled stop on most camping itineraries. Interest in travel for youth groups sponsored by community organizations is national in scope. This camp is only the beginning of a facility for youth service which is destined to grow, not only in this community but throughout the country."

Mr. William I. Lucas of the Community Council expressed the appreciation of the youth-serving agencies, referring to the campership fund program of this division of

The kitchen and dining pavilion, seen from the hillside, is centrally located. Low wall serves as seat. Eaves extend to form protection for the open sides.



the council and their objective of a camping experience for every teen-age boy and girl during at least one summer of their school days. "The provision of this camp," he said, "will now enable our agencies to plan a much more extensive program of camping. We anticipate developing a plan to acquire a number of camping equipment units, including bedrolls and cooking utensils which can be made available for groups or individuals who cannot afford to own them. In this plan we shall also invite the cooperation of the service clubs which have made this camp possible."

City Manager John M. Biery, commenting on the citations for service contributed to the camp, said, "The value of this physical plant is immeasurably greater than the actual financial outlay because so much individual service, besides the actual dollars contributed, has gone into the planning and construction of the accommodations, all donated cheerfully by many citizens and organizations concerned for the improvement of our environment for youth."

The contributions from the service clubs, Junior Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, and Community Foundations totaled \$12,750, which was used to buy materials and to pay for contract labor. The two-inch waterline was extended five hundred feet from the park main as the contribution of a local contractor member of the committee. Volunteer members of the plumbers' union installed the plumbing fixtures in the service building. The painters' union finished all the exterior woodwork and painted the interior of the service building, using materials donated by the paint and supply dealers. The outstanding labor contribution was six hundred man-hours on construction furnished by members of the Exchange Club. They dug the foundations, laid the pumice blocks, and erected the roof rafters.

The committee considers the first year's development as the initial phase of a long-range plan in which the camping facilities can be extended as use justifies and finances are available. Now provided are four Adirondack shelters, a dining-cooking pavilion, and the service building. The shelters, as the name indicates, have one side open and are oriented to provide protection from the wind, rain, or snow.

The kitchen and dining pavilion are centrally located. The concrete floor space is enclosed by a low wall which is capped by a parapet that serves as a seat. The tables are four feet square with space for eight campers. The diagonal

Hi-Y chefs prepare their eats. Since official opening in 1954 some seventy-five youth groups or organizations have been listed among the many camp visitors.



braces of the table legs, placed one foot above the floor, provide a shelf convenient for storing hats, cameras, and other duffel during a meal.

The cooking units, or stoves, have top cooking surfaces 22 by 44 inches, and independently-fired baking or barbecuing ovens 16 by 16 by 40 inches. The fire chambers for the surface and oven units are connected to separate chimneys with damper controls and may be used independently. The ovens are operated on the principle of the adobe bake-ovens found in the Indian pueblos along the Rio Grande River, as they are preheated by fires built about an hour in advance and the cooking done by the stored residual heat. Bread, pastries, potatoes, apples, and meats may be cooked perfectly in this way. These stoves in the dining pavilion, also the one in the Rotary shelter, were improvised from artificial ice freezer cans. They are mounted upon bases of firebrick.

The winterized service building has every facility for "clean-ups" which are as important as satisfying food for the campers. This heated building, with duplicate equipment on opposite sides for boys and girls, provides a supply of hot and cold water for lavatory sinks and shower baths which can be maintained all the year around. Adequate toilet facilities are likewise available at all times. Bottled gas is used to heat the building and as fuel for the water heater. A telephone is located near the service building, and electricity for lighting all the buildings is provided by the city from nearby power lines.

The activity area and woodlot is located adjacent to the kitchen. Sections of logs imbedded in the ground and surrounded by seats of smaller sections afford tables for hand-craft projects, letter writing, notebook work, or table games. Here also is plenty of material for the whittlers and wood-carvers as well as for the kitchen firewood supply, which is kept replenished by the park department from dead trees removed from city property. The campers assigned to splitting the trunks and branches for firewood usually compete with zeal in this activity.

Applications for "use permits" are made to the Colorado Springs Park Department, and the responsibility for making space assignments and enforcing the regulations is assigned to the Palmer Park caretaker who said, in reporting the record for the first season, "The groups using the camp have

been very cooperative in cleaning up. It is estimated that they do seventy-five per cent of the general clean-up in the camp and immediate area, and the remaining twenty-five per cent is done by the park caretaker."

Since February 14, 1954 when the camp was officially presented to the park department, seventy-five youth organizations or groups have been guests there. Included in the list kept by the park superintendent, Willard Russell, were the local Boy and Girl Scouts, the YMCA Hi-Y Clubs, YWCA Y-Teens, Boys' Club, groups from the Salvation Army and the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind, and also various church and neighborhood groups. In addition to visiting Scouts, there were the Normal Girls of Wisconsin, tour parties of the See America First organization, and the Future Farmers of America. Altogether twenty-two states were represented and 1,949 individual campers were listed in the use permits. More than half the number requested permission to remain three or four nights in order to visit the scenic points of interest in the Pikes Peak region.

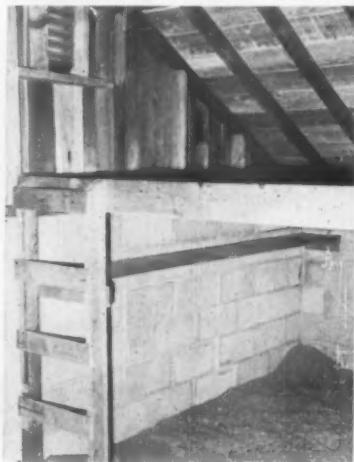
The camp development, with many services donated and material purchased at cost, was achieved with a financial expenditure of \$12,654.56. The plan proposed by the camp committee to clear a small indebtedness and provide funds for the development of additional facilities as need arises, calls for annual contributions from the service clubs and civic organizations pledged to support this youth project.

The committee was gratified to receive an evaluation of the camp from Arthur Todd, field representative for the National Recreation Association, in which he said, "The camp represents an extremely useful and desirable service by the community to its own youth and the young people of other states and communities. Organized youth groups of all kinds find here the facilities that they require, arranged in such a way that they can enjoy the greatest satisfaction of outdoor living. The provision of these facilities requiring only custodial care makes possible this excellent service at a minimum cost. . . . The financing of the camp by service clubs and other organizations is most commendable. It is difficult to conceive of any projects or expenditure of funds that would give more satisfaction to those who have shared in it or would be a greater investment in the future of the community." ☙

**Shelters equipped with cooking units are much in demand for winter camping and, in particular, for scout patrol use.**



**Bunks in each shelter can accommodate ten or twelve campers, are filled with clean sand. Floors are concrete.**



**The cooking unit in Rotary shelter is similar to those in dining pavilion. All are enclosed, wood-burning, have ovens.**



# Arts and Crafts Are Terrific Success

*How a dramatic hobby school, set up by the city recreation department, adds charm to St. Petersburg, Florida*



Mary E. L. Sawyer

NO ELABORATE festivals are needed to entertain visitors in St. Petersburg. Art for fun, and not "for art's sake," has taken over. The community has observed that the average tourist of modest means can become bored quickly, and that people who have retired need a purpose in life; and it has proceeded to do something about these facts.

This civic attitude has resulted in a new and exciting activity. Hundreds of men and women, many of them elderly, are discovering fun, satisfaction, and social contacts every week in fifty different class groups in arts and crafts.

The St. Petersburg Recreation Department Adult Arts and Crafts Center was established April, 1952. It has grown by leaps and bounds and has been moved to larger quarters for the third time. Since November, 1954, it has formed the foundation of "The Sunshine University," located at the city's old Maritime Base, formerly a Marine training station.

There is always much in crafts to keep one mentally alive. It is stimulating to experiment with new materials and create new uses for old materials. Every day craftsmen and "will-be" craftsmen of the adult group find out that this is a very important aspect of keeping mentally fit. This busy, happy center fills a need, gives these people a feeling of personal growth. They become more interesting to themselves and thus to others.

The staff of the center report wonderful development among the elderly craftsmen, of coordination of mind and muscle and relaxed working procedures which make their work a lot of fun.

MARY E. L. SAWYER is senior supervisor of recreation in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Proud craftsman at hobby school shows technique of "throwing the wheel," a satisfying and glamorous part of the art of pottery-making.

The classes are taught advanced procedures and techniques in loom weaving, woodworking, basketry, ceramics and pottery, art in metal, enamel on copper, leather work, puppets and marionettes, and doll making. Advanced work is also promoted in the art groups: painting in oils, water color, pastels, and in the sculpturing group. A center of this type must be set up to encourage the creative and social recreation phases of such activities. Then the rewards are twofold—for participants and for the recreation department. Each receives satisfaction in giving and in receiving.

Going through the arts and crafts division, which is housed in the administration buildings of the old base on Tampa Bay, next door to the U.S. Coast Guard, one sees subjects for the artists to paint close at hand—boats, docks, landed buoys, and many waterfront

activities, all colorful and stimulating.

The Weavers Guild, consisting of a large group of elderly ladies, takes up a huge room, with forty looms. Some of these weavers took up the craft as a profession years ago; others took it up as a hobby. They all say that they were attracted primarily by its soothing relaxing aspects. Early American patterns from coverlets are reproduced on the 2-4-6-8-harness looms. One weaver makes unbelievable patterns on a 34-harness loom. New and original designs are constantly being made up for group use. They invent new uses for metallic gold, silver, and bronze nylon threads in weaving stoles, evening wear, and purses.

Have you ever heard the "Weaver's Rhythmic Song"? On the wall of the weavers' room is a plaque with these words: "One—throw and catch; two—firmly beat; three—hold the beater; four—change the feet." New weavers are supposed to chant these four steps to make a weave right.

"One evening last winter," said the director, "I was at the far end of the building from the weavers' room. I could hear the weavers at work on their looms; it was a very homey and industrious sound, pleasing and rhythmic. It was the sound of the craftsman at work.

"I have gone into the center and heard the beating on metal, perhaps loud and disturbing, but to the other craftsmen intent on their own work in other rooms, this noise meant the making of beautiful handwrought bowls, cups, trays, jewelry, and pieces of copper to enamel.

"In a sunlit room a group of forty elderly men and women were painting in oils. I watched a lady of seventy



Headquarters at old maritime training station provides ideal scenes for outdoor painters: boats, docks, waterfront activity.

painting her first picture, a scene of the lighthouse where she lived. I watched a retired doctor intent on his work. He said to me, 'You know, this is wonderful. I've always wanted to try this, but never had the time or opportunity.' I stopped to watch another woman, hands drawn with arthritis, making a pine-needle tray, happy with her work, delighted that her hands were working again, and enjoying the social atmosphere with all the others around her.

"I edged my way into another room to watch the excitement of these elderly people taking pieces of enamel on copper out of the kiln, amazed at the glazes taking on brilliance as the pieces cooled."

These people have gone all out for ceramics. Some of the reasons are the excellent specialists in ceramics, the opportunities to make something useful, and to create something in a cool soothing medium. It has been estimated that over 9,500 pieces have been completed here in a year's time.

The Adult Arts and Crafts Center is

unique in its operation and conduct. A registration membership fee of one dollar per year is paid by each person enrolling in courses. The courses are set up on a basis of four weeks, two classes per week, for three dollars plus cost of materials. The instructors receive two dollars per person, and the one dollar membership fee and other dollar from the course fee go into the city's funds for operation, maintenance, and equipment. Attendance averages one hundred persons a day. The division is in operation daily, 9:30 to 11:30, 2:00 to 4:00, and 7:30 to 9:30, Monday through Friday. There have been as many as fifty classes scheduled per week. Four full-time workers and a maintenance man are paid by the recreation department. During the height of the season for visitors, there are as many as thirty-two instructors.

The instructors come to the center of their own accord; but the requirements are high. In addition to having backgrounds of training and experience in their field of arts and crafts, they must

like to teach techniques and procedures. These fine instructors all believe that this is a way of giving instead of receiving; and they also believe that they, too, receive much beyond the twenty-five cents per person compensation.

The department staff members are amazed at the talent, experience, and ability of these instructors. Among them are: a retired silversmith from England, who studied under old masters from boyhood, and who is famous for the hand-wrought gold cup and saucer he makes for an annual handicap race in Canada; well-known artists; retired businessmen, retired school teachers and college professors; and retired people who always worked in arts and crafts as a profession or a hobby. A few of the instructors are young adults, well-trained and entirely interested in the arts and crafts division and its interesting people.

An arts and crafts center is a place offering the freedom to keep busy, it's a friendly place, it's education on an informal recreation basis. People help each other. They enjoy working together in groups. They leave their troubles behind them, or solve them here in doing constructive work and what they most want to do with their time. They are always proud to show the results of their work. Compliments and constructive criticism are offered and accepted. Many have entered their work in exhibitions and received recognition and reward.

When one hears an elderly person say with so much pride and satisfaction, "Look what I made!" that's enough reward and reason for operating a golden-age arts and crafts center in anybody's town. ☺

Firing enamel on copper and silver is exciting and a source of wonder at the high brilliance of the pieces as they cool.



One of the forty looms of the Weavers Guild. Constant experiment creates original designs using new metallic threads.



# Evening Programs in Camp

Gerald P. Burns

MANY A CAMPER will, in after years, look back upon his camp experience and recall the evening program with pleasant memories. This particular time of day, just prior to bedtime, presents an unusual opportunity for activities quite different than those offered throughout the day. Their strategic occurrence at the close of the day enshrines them vividly in the impressionable minds of campers. The salient features of evening programs are unlike those of the school, the home, or the church. In fact, they provide a significant adjunct to educational implications of total camp program.

*General Principles.* Varieties of the evening program are endless but, like other activities of the camp, they require alignment with the objectives of the total program. For example, a short-term camp (one or two weeks) should favor a different type than does a long-term camp, since programs of prolonged and recurrent nature might easily consume too great a proportion of the short-term camp period. However, the long-term camp (one or two months) profits by stressing a continuous or connected program of related and integrated evening activities. Then too, the nature of the evening program must conform in general to the remainder of the camp program. For example, if primitive living is the core of the camp program and philosophy, then it should be continued in the evening.

Certain general principles apply to the majority of evening programs despite their highly variable character. The following are a few which are relative to all. Evening programs should:

1. Taper off and prepare the camper for bed. Properly planned they can work toward a quiet closing note that is conducive to repose.

2. Be planned in the light of the total camp program; if the day has been physically strenuous, the evening program should be less active. It may also set the stage for coming events and help dramatize various other aspects of the camp program.

3. Be democratically planned. Impromptu or surprise programs planned by the director, the staff, or the campers are desirable at intervals, but all three should cooperate in

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DR. BURNS, former executive director of the American Camping Association, is now vice-chancellor of New York University.



PROGRAM

planning the greater part of the camp's twilight activities.

4. Provide opportunities for wide participation. One method of achieving maximum participation is to schedule the evening activities on the four functional levels or operating groupings of camp: the intimate living group of the tent or cabin; that of several cabins or tents, usually of similar age groups; the interest or activity group; the total camp, including all units and the complete staff. Here is a spot for everyone to get into the act. Those proficient in particular fields should have opportunity to shine, but not dominate the limelight or deny opportunity to those less gifted. It is at this point that the skillful counselor plays the role of a diplomat-administrator in uncovering hidden talents, drawing out shy individuals, developing cooperative undertakings, and promoting such matters as need the emphasis that evening programs provide.

5. Be as much outdoor-centered as possible. Various phases, including pioneer living, Indian lore, and the like, should be continuously stressed. The unique outdoor environment of the camp should be utilized, thus providing a theme different from anything urban environment offers.

6. Be largely informal and simple in structure. Long preparation for dramatic perfection can usurp so much time as to preclude opportunities for participation in other more desirable pursuits. Complex scenery and staging may be questioned in most camps. Simple camp-constructed staging usually has more personalized value than elaborate materials imported from the city.

7. Provide opportunities for ingenuity and creativeness. Few situations equal the camp in its facility to develop creative activities. The camp, incorporating all the elements of a community and blending the various groups into a structural entity, provides for improvisation and creativity.

8. Offer a wide variety of activities that include some items of interest for every camper. The bounds of the imagination are the only limitations in the evening program of the modern camp. As in the day's activities, care must be taken that balance is maintained. This balance concerns itself with such matters as the length of the program, the nature of the groups participating, the activity or passivity involved, and the supplement it provides for the ongoing theme of the total camp program.

9. Avoid embarrassing any person in camp. After the

strenuous program of the daylight hours, a more subdued and friendly spirit is invoked at evening. Good natured fun is encouraged, but horseplay that embarrasses or pokes fun at any member of the camp should not be tolerated.

10. Utilize the best possible sites available. Many specially designated areas are better suited to evening and nocturnal activities than to daytime pursuits. The site, equipment, and facilities should be as carefully chosen for evening programs as for their daytime counterparts.

*Variety, the Spice of Program.* The best entertainers understand that a show replete with a variety of acts gains audience appreciation more readily than a presentation that drags along on a single theme. Successful teachers know that a curriculum rich in content and delivered by different methods catches and holds the interest of pupils, thus permitting rapid learning. Camp directors appreciate the unending possibilities for variation and extension of the camp program in the evenings. The long summer evening is looked upon as a time for adding an appropriate climax, active or passive, as a fitting supplement to the day's activity.

Why do evening programs vary so markedly from their daytime counterparts? There are several reasons. First, dusk is falling and the quiet solitude of night is descending. Many activities can be sponsored in the dusk that are impossible in the brightness of day. One illustration of this is the magic that transforms the simple cooking fire of the day into the symbolic campfire of the night. Then too, a story of romance and adventure soars to unimagined heights on the wings of darkness and mysterious night sounds.

A second reason for this difference lies in the particular purpose of the evening program—to close the day on a high level of participation. A friendly circle can be formed at high noon, but in the twilight it is vastly more effective. Square dancing is fun at any time, but always best in the evening. Programs designed to supplement the day's activities and send the campers to bed with new attitudes, deeper insights, and wider understandings are a vital element in the program of the modern camp.

Third, evening programs differ from daily activities in that the former seek to develop that part of the camper's personality which is but lightly touched upon during the day. Most of the morning and afternoon pursuits encourage active and sometimes strenuous physical participation. In contrast, the evening festivities are primarily directed along mental and emotional lines; they form the more passive portion of the camper's waking hours. In the still of the night, when mental attention and emotional focus are riveted on a particular thought, deed, or plan, concentration occurs and teachable moments present themselves. It is in this wonderful environment that maximum effort should be made to present programs and activities of spiritual and moral value.

*Evening Programs as Supplement to a Full Day.* In some ways the evening is, and in some ways it is not, a definite extension of the daily program. Activities of the twilight hours are a part of the day's program in that they continue to some extent the theme of the day and help achieve desirable goals. Evening activities are not a true part of the day's

activities in that their purpose, method of presentation, and sometimes their content are quite different. One way of expressing their relationships is to say that evening activities are *supplementary* to the activities of daylight hours.

Evening activities are supplementary also in that they taper off the earlier activities. They provide opportunity for putting across ideas not possible during the day. These ideas may be as subtle as a parable or obvious as a general administrative announcement. The evening is a time to sum up the program that has gone before, to bestow recognition, to answer questions, and to bring the day to a happy close. As a proper conclusion is essential to a well-developed report, so, too, is a well-devised evening program essential to the smoothly functioning and expertly balanced program of the modern camp.

*Role of the Staff.* The counselors and director should take an active part in the various evening programs. The role of the staff in the usual daytime program is to guide the planning, render necessary leadership, and facilitate maximum participation by the campers. In the evening, the staff participates with greater frequency in the actual program.

Sometimes campers desire—and with reason—to be entertained at the close of the day. If such a desire is manifest on occasion, there is no reason why the staff should not step into a more active role by putting on a show, engaging in a contest, or in other ways providing an interesting and enjoyable finale to the day's program.

Obviously, all evening programs should not be limited to staff participation. The guiding principle here should be that the evening program include the proper combination of staff and campers to promote the best balance.

*Planned and Unplanned.* As in the case of the daytime programs, a certain amount of spontaneous activity is desirable. There must be opportunity for the individual camper to be on his own. There must be time for interaction between campers, not scheduled as a formal affair.

Sound planning allows for some unscheduled evenings. This should be true on all three levels—cabin, unit, and camp. If campers desire to change to a planned program on a semispontaneous basis, this should be permitted. Capable counselors and administrators recognize, in the unplanned or spontaneous evening programs, a fruitful opportunity to achieve important objectives, particularly on the mental, emotional, and spiritual planes.

Whether on a planned or unscheduled basis, the evening offers an ideal time for a quiet "retreat" of small groups or individuals. An extension of the retreat on a large scale is the vespers program used by so many camps. Nature has lavishly endowed most camps. There are few camps that cannot find or develop a "natural cathedral" in which inspirational meetings can be held.

Among other types of evening activities are evening singing, storytelling, games, campfire programs, nocturnal nature activities, evening trips and excursions which include star jaunts, moonlight walks, night-sounds trips, dark night trips, evening cook-outs, and so on. ☞

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# NEW HORIZONS in CAMP FIRES

Justine Milgrom

Drawings by Harry Milgrom

**W**HAT ARE THE ingredients for a successful campfire experience? We all know what they are—camper participation, motivation, a well organized program, color, and memorable dramatic highlights.

Last summer, we decided to utilize a modern theme in keeping with the present-day interests of our youngsters; so our high-point fire was based on "Space Adventures."

Preparation began almost as soon as we arrived at camp.

**MRS. MILGROM** has been a crafts director at summer camps for the past fifteen years, and has her own crafts studio specializing in jewelry and **MR. MILGROM** is supervisor of science in the elementary schools in New York City.

A number of boys were recruited to work on what we mysteriously called "Operation Z." This involved the construction of a very large model rocketship capable of housing a child. It was so built that it later became a piece of permanent play equipment. The entire project was considered a top secret known only to those involved. It aroused a great deal of speculation and interest.

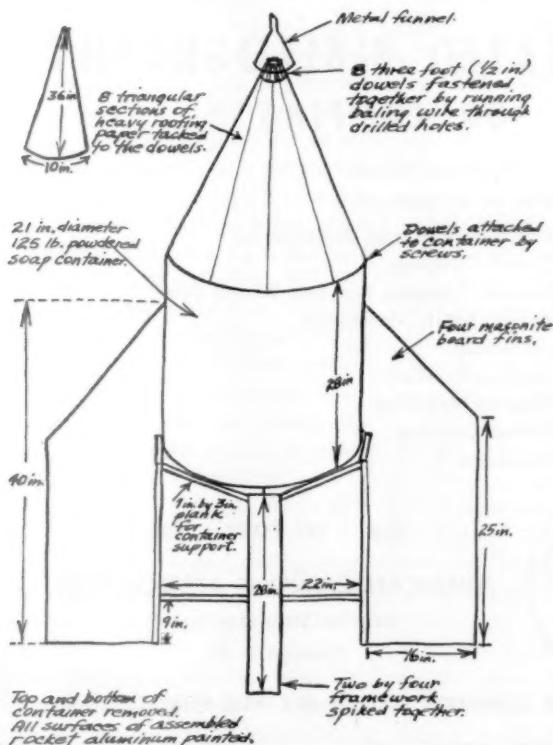
The ship was completed about a week before the campfire date. When the camp was otherwise occupied it was finally assembled and made part of a space travel agency that was set up on the main lawn. Each child came over and indicated the planet he wished to visit. His name was entered on a list. He operated the controls, flashed a message to the "central dispatching office" on Mars and received a ticket for his passage. The children were introduced to the "Language of the Universe"—pig Latin to ordinary mortals.

A call went out to the campers for skits and songs suitable for the occasion. By this time the imaginations had been so fired that a tremendous amount of original material was forthcoming.

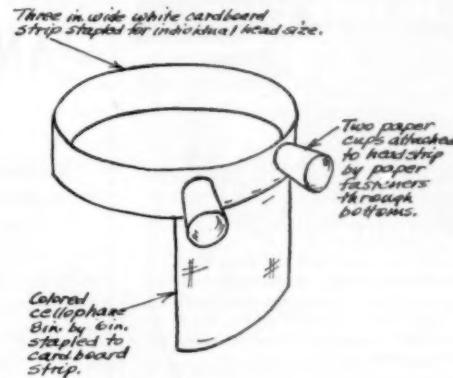
The crafts department with the cooperation of another group of campers produced a space helmet for each child.

It was decided that a special word should be used to signify approval. One of the leaders wore an illuminated sign on his chest with the letters ZYX. When the light flashed on, the campers shouted "ZYX" instead of applauding. "The Song of Space" was written to the tune of "The Marines' Hymn." All the youngsters learned it in advance and it became the theme song.

THE ROCKET SHIP



THE SPACE HELMET



THE CERTIFICATE



### The Song of Space

From the good old earth we blast away,  
On a journey bold and new.  
As we zoom along, we shout and say,  
"Outer space we're coming through."

#### Chorus

Hail to Venus, Pluto, and to Mars!  
Hail to each Saturnian!  
Hang the banners from the twinkling stars  
For the flight of the Earthman.

The ( camp name ) rocket travels straight  
To each planet in its place.  
Every space man soon will learn his fate  
And the mysteries of solar space.

#### Chorus

Hail to Juperry, Merc, and Uranus!  
Hail to all Neptunians!  
There are none who can compare with us,  
For we're space adventurers.

—Justine and Harry Milgrom

After dinner, on the night of the fire, each child got his headdress and had pinned to his shoulders a towel which served as a flowing space travel cape.

The actual program events followed:

- At the bugle call all campers with their counselors assembled at the flagpole.
- The head counselor announced that a messenger from outer space was expected. At that moment, signals and swishing noises went out over the public address system. The messenger appeared running towards the group across the fields. He carried a large beam light.
- The messenger explained that he would lead the group

to the launching platform. (Campfire site where the rocket ship was now set up.) All proceeded there by groups.

- Campers were seated. They were introduced to the "space guide" who explained their various travels.

• The fire had been built with a pathway of sparklers leading to it. The messenger lit the fire by placing a match to the sparklers. When the last one burned to the end, the fire burst into flames, blasting us off into space.

• The space guide went into a running commentary about fastening safety belts, a description of outer space, traveling speed, and so on. This was an opportunity to impart a bit of scientific information.

- En route the group sang its space theme song.

• Venus was sighted. On it was seen a group of space girls. The ship landed and the passengers were entertained by one of the younger girls groups. They had written an original story which they acted out using a narrator and pantomime action.

- The ship took off again and sighted Pluto where a group of boys entertained with an original song.

- We then had some music on the guitar.

- The space guide told a "Fantastic Story."

- Another group sang an original song.

• The space guide sighted Saturn and went into a description of its rings. He announced that some of the Saturnian rings were among us to be distributed. They turned out to be doughnuts, the refreshments for the evening. At this time, also, each child received a space certificate.

- All sang taps in pig Latin and a happy evening ended. ☺

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Playground leader Marcia Lane illustrates effective use of the autoharp which "anyone can play right off."

**T**HE AUTOHARP has solved a number of the problems of music for playgrounds in Colorado Springs, for it is a portable, low-cost, adaptable instrument easily played by a person who has had no training in music.

Dating back several hundred years, and well known in Europe, the autoharp has only recently been popularized in this country and is just beginning to be used in recreation activities. In appearance, it is similar to a zither, with thirty-seven strings across a sounding box; however, unlike the zither which must be played by plucking strings (and knowing which string to use), the autoharp has twelve chord bars, each lettered with the chord that it produces. In order to get a perfect C-chord of three octaves, the player simply presses down on the C-chord bar and strums the strings. It is small enough to carry around, weighs less than eight pounds, and rests on the table, or in the player's lap when being played.

The problem of what to use for a musical background, where a piano is not available, came up at a recreation meet-

Betty Burton



## Use An AUTOHARP on the Playground

ing in Denver; and Art Todd, Midwest representative of the National Recreation Association, told us about the autoharp. Soon afterward, a local man, Mr. diSessa, appeared at a club meeting, using the instrument as an accompaniment for singing ballads. A talented musician who plays the violin and piano as well, he likes the autoharp for relaxation, and he showed us that it could be played by anyone. The leaders were interested, but somewhat skeptical about their own ability. Finally a boys' gym teacher said, "Well, that's all right for you, but how do I go about trying to play the thing?" Mr. diSessa showed him how to hold the F-chord bar down with one finger of one hand, and how to strum the strings with the other, after a couple of tries the teacher accompanied "Old McDonald Had a Farm"—with everyone singing. This piece could be done with only the one chord. After that, there were no more questions about need for musical ability. The meeting went overtime while everyone experimented enthusiastically.

The first summer that we used the autoharp (two years ago), we simply took it out, at a scheduled time, to each playground and started using it with the singing. Since the chords are the same as for guitars, we bought two books of music for group singing which were marked with letters corresponding to the chord bars. With these it was simple to know which chord to play.

We still felt, however, that we were short of music activities on our four-

teen playgrounds. Last summer, therefore, we hired a specialist—a playground leader with a background of music and drama. She introduced rhythm bands, singing games, puppets, and plays. Where youngsters had formerly been hesitant about singing, the constant use of the autoharp has conditioned them and they now sing out happily.

Used with the tom-toms, bells, triangles, sticks, and ocarinas in the rhythm bands, the autoharp added the much needed chords to tie the other instruments together. In the little plays and puppet shows, it added sound effects and accompaniment.

To provide music for all the grounds, we mimeographed a booklet of forty common songs, double-spaced with the chord letter written above the words. Youngsters and the leader also worked out the chords for other songs.

Although there are twelve chord bars on the harp, they provide eight chords related to the key of C, eight related to F, six related to G, and three main chords in the keys of A and D minor. A booklet which comes with the harp contains instructions for playing it, a few pieces to experiment on, information on relation of chords and about transposing from one key to another; also a rack that fits onto the instrument to hold the music, felt and plastic picks (a rubber eraser works quite well, too), and a key to tighten or loosen strings for tuning. The instrument holds its tuning well and is simple to tune by

BETTY BURTON is activities supervisor for Department of Parks and Recreation in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

checking with a piano. A person who knows music can do a pretty good job just by ear.

While the autoharp will produce chords easily, that is not the limit of its usefulness. With a little practice and experimenting, the player soon learns that full three-octave chords may be played, or that only the bass strings may be strummed for different effects, that different rhythms can be worked out, and that going up the strings and then down provides an interesting result. Also the strings are all labeled at one end of the instrument so that it is possible to pick out one note alone.

One person may hold down the chord bar, while a small child plucks the strings, and a youngster seven years old can learn to play the instrument alone. I know this sounds too good to be true, and readers will say, "There must be a

catch somewhere." There is one small one—a chord bar must be pressed down to make a chord; strumming the instrument without pressing a chord bar can rapidly drive a leader crazy, so the instrument does need to be used by a leader or with the leader's supervision.

The cost of the autoharp will depend on where you purchase it. Although it is made in this country by only one manufacturer and the name is copyrighted by them, we found that a local music store wanted thirty-five dollars for the instrument, while the identical instrument could be bought from Montgomery Ward for \$19.50 (that was two years ago; the price is now \$22.98).

Our latest discovery about the autoharp is that, when used with a contact microphone and amplifying set, it is loud enough to provide background for singing for a room of fifty people. We

have bought the contact mike and are planning to make arrangements so that an amplifying set and battery can be carried in the department car for use on playgrounds with no electrical outlets. This adds to the equipment being carried around, but it also increases the use of the harp and is not much trouble since the amplifying equipment does not have to be taken out of the car. The first time that I heard the autoharp amplified, I was astounded at the similarity in sound to that of a large harp, and the excellent tone of the music.

Since most of our playgrounds have limited storage space, and none of them have a piano available, and since most playground leaders are not accomplished musicians, this instrument has really given our playground program a boost and helped music to have a real place among our activities. ☺

## The Enchanted World of Out-of-Doors

Dorothy Edwards Shuttlesworth

The out of doors is a world of wonder to children. Everywhere lie possibilities for discovery and adventure; and to a child whose parents explore with him, these possibilities may be richly fulfilled. Happily, nature exploring does not necessitate a trek to Mongolian deserts or to African jungles; it can take place in your own backyard, or in a city park. It can add zest to a hike in the country and provide endless activity during vacations near woodland, lake, or seashore.

Children are curious as to why stars disappear in the daytime and what makes rain. They wonder how birds fly, why tree foliage changes color and how flowers make seeds. Their inquisitive and eager minds are always ready to investigate the ways of animals and the wonders of plants. The parent who does not guide his own child along nature's ways misses a priceless opportunity. Shared adventures of discovery bring parents and children closer together, and they can develop a bond that will remain strong throughout a lifetime.

There is no set pattern to be followed for nature exploring. Children are individual in their approach to nature's activities. Basically, however, a sure way to further a child's love of nature is for parents themselves to be aware of natural wonders, to encourage youthful inquisitiveness as to why animals, plants, and the elements behave as they do, and to provide some opportunity for the child to satisfy his curiosity as it is aroused.

"Exploring" may consist of as simple a pastime as watching a spider manufacture its silken trap or a squirrel hoard a nut by burying it underground. On the other hand, it may lead into absorbing hobbies. But whether the explorations

are merely observations shared and talked over or extensive activities, they provide a lively and very real basis for companionship between you and your children.

One delightful, yet extremely simple, hobby is attracting birds to your home. In winter, the most effective lure for them is a feeding station. When usual food supplies are scarce, your feeding station may not only be a source of pleasure to your family, but may help birds survive.

Many children are fascinated by insects. Of all these six-legged creatures, perhaps top place of interest is held by ants. There is almost never a problem in finding them during mild seasons of the year—they flourish about city pavements as well as in pastures and forests.

Tracking animals is a perfect hobby to enjoy with a child whose sleuthing instincts are strong. When a walk takes you near marshy mud or soft river banks or you hike across snowy fields, you will discover tracks of animals that were in those places before you. What kind were they? Were they hunting for food or running for their lives?

Pressing flowers, feeding birds, tracking animals, and a vast variety of other nature exploring activities may seem no more than pleasant pastimes. But they serve a far deeper purpose. As a child becomes acquainted with the ways of nature—with the harmony that exists between all living things so long as man does not disturb them—he gains a sense of inner security. As he matures, something of this understanding may give him perspective and faith when he comes to face the problems of this anxious world. And parents who give their children a love of nature as a precious heritage find themselves enriched in the process. ☺

Excerpted with permission from *Parents Magazine*, April 1954 issue.

# HOW ABOUT A PEANUT CARNIVAL?

David Sayward

**I**T WAS LATE in Concord's 1954 playground season and time to plan our "top-them-all" special event. In talking over some of the possibilities, our recreation director, Don Sinn, casually suggested a "Peanut Carnival."

At first thought, it sounded like a silly idea but the more I questioned the implications of such an event, the better it sounded. This led to a quick conference with my co-worker, the girls' playground director, Lucille Lord; we both agreed that it held promise, and began to formulate plans.

The general idea was to hold a Coney Island type of carnival, using peanuts as the medium of exchange. Admittance would be a five-cent bag of peanuts, sold at the gate. The peanuts would then be used as "money" to visit the side shows and other attractions, and play the various games of skill, winning peanuts in return if they were successful. Operators of the concessions would be allowed to keep the peanuts collected in operating their booths.

The next step was to sell the idea to the children and arouse their interest.

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*Author DAVID SAYWARD and Lucille Lord are both school teachers who were playground directors at White Park, Concord, New Hampshire. Donald F. Sinn is director of the Concord Department of Recreation and Parks.*

The initial reaction was somewhat lukewarm. Mrs. Lord and I had to outline details, not quite sure ourselves just what it was all about. Seeds of interest were sown among the more active playground participants, and the idea buzzed around the park for several days. Meanwhile, a general story in the newspaper and on the local radio spread the idea and set children thinking.

We, the playground directors, soon found ourselves all wrapped up in the project. We drew up more specific plans, including use of the floodlighted outdoor park hockey area for the site, a "floor plan" for the booths, and eye-catching posters urging boys and girls to sign up for a space to build a booth. Increased activity in the woodworking shop soon gave evidence that the idea was catching on. Questions came from all directions. Certain self-styled playground "toughies," who had scoffed at the sissy idea of the Peanut Carnival, got more curious by the day and were soon inquiring, "Could we have a booth?" Less enterprising children were given suggestions to mull over and an idea or two as to how a booth might be handled.

As enthusiasm spread and we lost some of our apprehension about planning such an event, the recreation director put new ideas into our heads, including inviting Clarence Huggins,

local auto dealer and collector of antique vehicles, to offer rides around the park in his ancient Arhens-Fox fire-truck which he had purchased from the city fire department as a collector's item. Another idea was having gondola rides around the park duckpond—using a rowboat on loan from the state fish and game department, with a member of the park maintenance crew as a guitar-playing gondolier. One of the city's prominent husband-and-wife drama teams, Mr. and Mrs. Winslow Osborne, were invited to play their well-known "Swami and the Princess" fortune-telling act in a tent set up on the midway for that purpose. As a climax to the carnival, a marshmallow roast, followed by a family folk and square dance on the asphalt multiple-use court nearby under colored lights, was arranged. The Peanut Carnival idea was now growing like wildfire.

In the days following, orange crates, mattress cartons, bailing wire, tin cans, crepe paper, paint, and rope were at a premium. In cellars and garages throughout the city, busy little carpenters were taxing dad's experience (and sometimes his patience) in fabricating novel booths and sideshows to enter in the contest for the best booths, for which simple prizes were offered.

The more difficult lighting and sound arrangements puzzled us until we ap-



The facts of supply and demand, learned in a realistic setting, did not stand in the path of a rousing good time for all.

proached the department maintenance supervisor, "Pat" Lachance. He eased our minds with sketches of how his crew could handle floodlighting, sound system, and crowd control.

We found it hard to estimate the quantity of peanuts to order. We were operating on a shoestring budget and finally decided that twenty pounds would be about right. The wholesale dealer agreed to reimburse us for leftover peanuts from the minimum-sized eighty-five-pound bag we had to buy.

Finally came the big day, a Friday. Soon after breakfast, boys and girls were hard at work at their assigned areas hammering, sawing, painting and digging. From all parts of the city came boxes, barrels, signs, wagons, and partly finished booths. The hockey rink area took on the appearance of Ringling Brothers Circus erecting the big top. Even at that late hour, new booths were being assigned as timid boys and girls could contain their ambition no longer and feverishly made plans for building their own concessions. Late in the afternoon Mrs. Lord and I finished bagging the twenty pounds of peanuts, answered

a "thousand" questions, checked on last-minute details, and finally went home for a nervous bite of supper prior to the announced starting time of 6:30 P.M.

At six o'clock, a line of men, women, and children waited at the gate to buy their tickets of admission—the five-cent bags of peanuts. In ten minutes, we were sold out and all available hands hastily ran to the park administration building to bag more peanuts. As fast as runners could carry them to the gate we were sold out. Next, we ran out of paper bags. Three cars headed for stores to beg more bags—with success.

And still we sold peanuts. To our amazement, we soon ran out of them—all eighty-five pounds were sold. A maintenance man knew a wholesaler and made one of the fastest purchases of sixty pounds of peanuts ever known. Meanwhile, the children operating the booths, knowing about the shortage, offered the peanuts they had received from patrons, to keep things humming. These were accepted gratefully on loan, with a promise to repay them next day.

Inside the Peanut Carnival everything was going fine. For their five-cent bags of peanuts, mom, dad, and the kids could spill the milk, putt a golf ball, hit a tin can, toss darts, guess how many beans, see a live alligator or a two-headed girl (twin sisters in one dress), shoot archery, toss rings, drive nails, drop clothespins, visit the Swami fortuneteller, take a gondola ride—yes, and even have a never-to-be-forgotten turn on the firetruck, with sirens wailing and bells clanging.

In the background, the department amplifier was playing calliope music. But, not to be outdone, one booth furnished its own entertainment to draw the crowd: an accordian player and a girl vocalist. Barkers competed with each other in style and volume.

As play continued—with strangers, local parents, and children all joining in the spirit of the affair—signs advertising "peanut prices" began to change. In some instances the price of playing a game was too low, the game too easy, and the proprietor found himself or herself going bankrupt. On the other hand, when the game was found to be difficult and the price of peanuts too high, barkers would quickly make the rules easier,

cut the rates, to prevent being priced "out of the market." Wonderful lessons of supply and demand were being learned in a realistic setting. But, above the business end of it all, a refreshing spirit of sportsmanship prevailed. The children proprietors were anxious to have everyone patronize their booth and rarely let lack of peanuts stand in the way as *fun for all* prevailed as the theme of the evening.

The fruit juice refreshment stand operated by an eight-year-old girl did a sellout business, and then shifted to marshmallows as the scheduled roast was already overdue, with all booths still going strong. A bonfire nearby attracted fathers and mothers who were expected to help their children toast marshmallows. Soon, these were sold out, and the scene shifted to the dancing area. Within minutes, several hundred people were whirling to the call of Paul Frost, local square dance caller, who had singing games, circle and square dances for all. Under the stars and the colored lights, a gay ending was provided for the Peanut Carnival. As dancers heard the strains of "Goodnight, Ladies," the gondolier and rower could be seen down on the pond wearily trying to take care of their last few customers. The antique firetruck hauled its last load and the Swami and Princess closed up shop for the season. Concord's first Peanut Carnival was over.

From the playground directors' point of view, this was an interesting and worthwhile experience. The affair was almost completely conducted by the children who planned, constructed, and operated their carnival booths and sideshows. What better motivation in the use of tools, design, decorating, business, promotion and advertising could be found? We knew where the credit for the success lay—with the enthusiastic boys and girls who pitched in with typical American initiative and ingenuity. Mrs. Lord and I went to our respective homes that night thoroughly exhausted. But could you blame us for having a warm feeling of satisfaction in knowing that our playground leadership had stimulated the best qualities in our children of today, the citizens of tomorrow, resulting in their own private enterprise—a Peanut Carnival? ☠

# How To Do It!

by Frank A. Staples

## ENAMELING ON COPPER ~ EARRINGS AND PINS.



### MATERIALS -

Kiln - inexpensive kilns are available.  
 Copper - 18 and 20 gauge  
 Cleaners  
 Steel Wool - medium  
 Tragacanth  
 Earring Backs  
 Household Cement  
 Brush or Atomizer  
 Wood alcohol  
 Three or more 2 oz. bottles of opaque and transparent enamels  
 Paper Towels  
 Tin Snips  
 Files  
 Brass wire screen, 80 mesh.

### METHOD

1. Cut copper plate desired shape.

3. Spray or paint on tragacanth.

Note: Tragacanth solution - 1 teaspoon of powdered tragacanth and 1 tablespoon of wood alcohol in quart jar, shake and dissolve, fill jar with water and shake.

5. Dry thoroughly and then place in kiln.

Note: Kiln is previously heated to 1650° F. and heat held to 1550° to 1650° F.  
 Average firing time 2½ to 3 minutes.

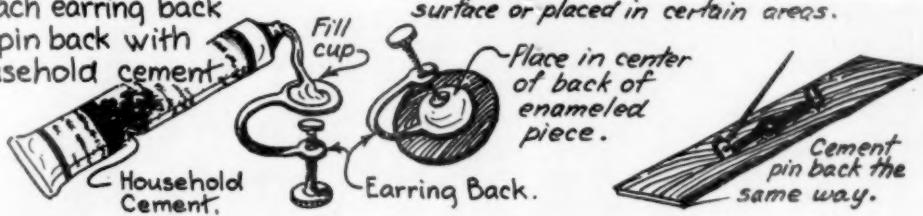
6. When fully fired remove from kiln - cool slowly. Enamel looks mirrorlike when fired.

7. Clean thoroughly and spray.

9. Dry - fire - clean as before.

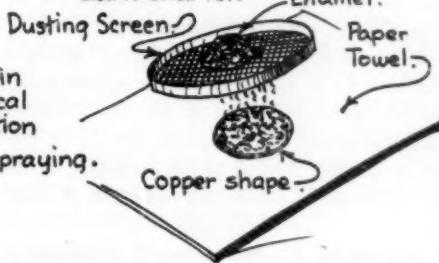
10. Attach earring back

or pin back with household cement



2. File edges and clean surface.

4. Place sprayed copper on paper towel - dust on even coat of dark enamel.



Hold in vertical position when spraying.

8. Place on paper towel and dust on second coat of enamel - use light opaque color.

Note: This coat may be dusted equally over surface or placed in certain areas.

# “WALK-TO” POOLS

## Are Worth a Million

*The Cleveland Experiment*

William A. Silverman, Jr.

MORE THAN 400,000 Cleveland children swam, splashed, and floated in style last summer when city officials in the Ohio metropolis did something without precedent in municipal affairs—simultaneously opened ten new ultra-modern neighborhood swimming pools. Their cost: one million dollars.

When one takes into consideration that Cleveland lies smack on Lake Erie, one of the world's largest land-locked bodies of water, where nice sandy beaches sprawl for miles, one's first comment is likely to be an amazed, “WOW!” But before jumping to any hasty conclusions, take a look at the facts.

First of all, Lake Erie may be beautiful to behold, but its water has been polluted by waste and refuse from hundreds of industrial plants and raw sewage from scores of little cities that rim the shore near Cleveland. Second, it would be impossible to guard the many miles of shoreline where Clevelanders are tempted to go to beat the hot-weather crowds. Third, even if the water were clean and guardable, there would always be the problem of transporting small children to it. Mom and dad are much too busy to trot off to the lake during the heat of the day. (The temperature hit the 90's twenty-two times last year.)

The answer to all this proved to be a simple, if quite daring, municipal project. Under the direction of recrea-

tion commissioner John S. Nagy, the city constructed ten neighborhood, or walk-to, pools. There were placed in the hearts of various neighborhoods, practically in the back yards of thousands of children who previously never had a chance to swim.

Area residents can reach them simply by walking to them in their bathing suits—so strategically are they located. For the first time, therefore, more people used city pools than nearby Lake Erie. With ten new additions, the city now has sixteen pools.

Drownings in Cuyahoga County were slashed in half, not one was recorded at the pools. A total of 434,249 used the new pools, scorning the beaches. Beach attendance dropped from 791,850 the year before to 362,630, while pool attendance swelled from 291,515 to 620,228. In all, Cleveland's pool and beaches served more than a million during the summer.

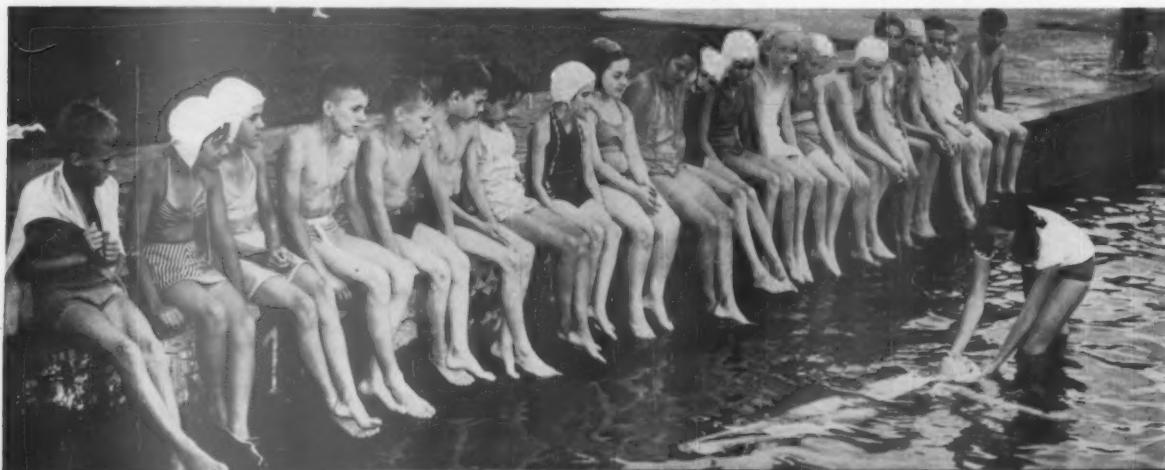
Another boon afforded by the new pools was noted in the jump in numbers of those who learned to swim. Attendance at free swimming classes doubled, leaping from the previous year's 23,507 to 53,183. One of the new pools, located at Halloran Park, instructed close to 10,000 youngsters in the three-month period. The classes were held Monday through Friday from nine until noon. All pools remained open until nine in the evening.

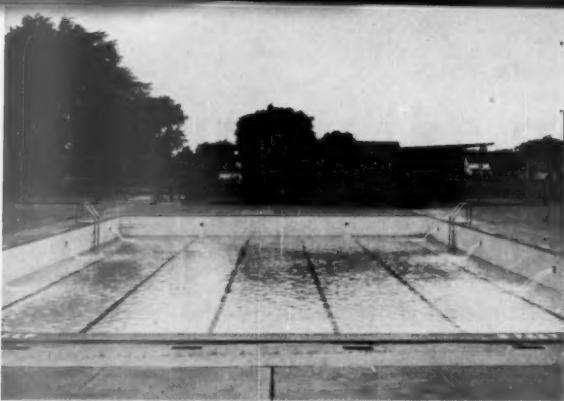
Costing \$100,000 each—a real bargain, the small fry will tell you—these modern seventy-five- by forty-two-foot pools have a depth range of three to five feet. Done in colorful pastel shades of green and brown, each pool is adjoined

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WILLIAM A. SILVERMAN, JR., was formerly a reporter for the Cleveland News, is now in Seoul, Korea, completing two years of military service.

**Life Saving.** This, as well as swimming, was taught free to 53,183 youngsters last summer at Cleveland's sixteen pools—which include ten new ultra-modern ones. These new “walk-to” pools rocketed the attendance at swimming classes 29,676 over the previous year's high, cut drownings.





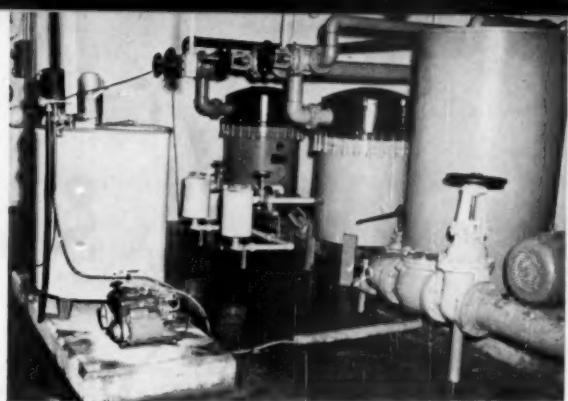
**Ready for Business.** Brand new Puritas Pool is filled for the first time. Each of these "neighborhood" pools cost \$100,000, measures 75 by 42 feet, has a depth range of three to five feet. In the background are facilities for taking showers plus a first-aid room. Note the space at sides of the pool, ample room for sunbathers.

by a first-aid room, twelve showers (six for the boys and six for the girls), bicycle racks, and plenty of space around the pool's edge for the sunbathers.

But the real beauty of the pools lies in the fact that the water level, chlorine count, and the water's purity is kept constant around the clock without the lifting of a single finger. Beneath each of the pools is a compact little mechanical pixie that does everything to the 97,000 gallons of water. The huge turnover of swimmers constantly lowers the chlorine count, their suits absorbing much of it. However, says Jack Pearl, pool and beaches supervisor, "The automatic Slurry feeder pump never allows the chlorine count to drop below .6 parts per million. The state specifies a minimum requirement of from .4 to .6 parts per million.

"Pur O Cell" filters, using diatomaceous earth in place of the sand filter method, checks impurities practically before they start. The water is changed constantly. Pumping 375 gallons a minute, a sparkling fresh 97,000 gallons is pumped into the pool every four hours. When the sun and absorbent bathing suits lower the water level so much as an inch, a sump-type drain pump goes into action and fills the void."

The fenced-in patio around the pool takes up an area of



**No Help Wanted!** This bit of machinery does everything necessary to the 97,000 gallons of water the pools hold. Chlorine count, water level, and the water's purity are maintained around the clock without a single finger ever being lifted. Tank on left is chlorinator. Large tank in the foreground mixes the water, maintains water level.

102 to 180 feet, plenty of space for three hundred children to romp in safety. The pools are especially appreciated by the mothers who can stop worrying about where junior is, and whether or not he'll be home for lunch. (The pools close from noon to one.) "If we didn't close," laughed one of the guards, "I think most of those kids wouldn't even go home to eat."

Anxious to keep the slate clean, foot and body inspections were held by officials who were extra careful and didn't allow children with suspicious looking rashes or suspected cases of athlete's foot to use the pools (3,043 were rejected, forty-two of them later returned with notes from their doctors giving them clean bills of health). Only sixty-eight accidents serious enough to warrant the services of a physician occurred at the pools, and the greater majority of these cases were treated and released on the spot.

Looking at the complete picture, Commissioner Nagy says: "We now have five of these new pools on both the east and west side. After only one season, it is obvious that they are the answer to one of the most pressing problems every large city faces—how to keep children off the streets when school's out. I feel that many other cities could benefit from the Cleveland experiment." ←

## News of Affiliated Societies\*

The Illinois Recreation Association has thoughtfully included in its *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting* (held November 1954) a list and abstracts of recent graduate recreation theses completed at the University of Illinois, thus making available to its members valuable material that might not otherwise be accessible. While many of the theses pertain particularly to recreation in Illinois, others are national and even international in scope. Of special interest is "A Glossary of Selected Public Recreation Terms." The well-presented Pro-

ceedings were edited by Dr. Allan V. Sapora, professor of recreation at the University of Illinois, and Freda S. Combs, conference chairman, and supervisor of the playground and recreation department in Decatur, Illinois.

The Arizona Recreation Association tackled the knotty problem of city-county cooperation at its fifth annual conference (held in December 1954). Experience indicates that county supervisors usually feel they represent the less populated areas of the county and the incorporated cities should take care of their own responsibilities. However, most of the tax money spent by county

supervisors comes from the more populated areas. The conference studied with particular attention California's recently enacted County Service Area Law.

The Wisconsin Recreation Association, in its *Bulletin* for April 1, 1955, offers an interesting article about color in playgrounds, with suggestions for painting specific pieces of equipment. The association states that attractive eye-appealing equipment makes an area brighter and more cheerful, contributes to safety, cuts down on vandalism, preserves wood and metal, curtails litter and trash being thrown about and promotes neighborhood pride.

\* Affiliated for service with the National Recreation Association.



# Feet on the Shower Room Floor

*The latest study of athlete's foot shows that the rule book on how to prevent the pesky fungus infection should be rewritten. This report is based on a paper read before the American Public Health Association, in Buffalo.*

THE TIME-HONORED rituals of curtailing athlete's foot by wading through antiseptic foot baths, dousing floors with disinfectants, sterilizing bath mats, towels, slippers, and socks may be well and good for keeping areas in and around swimming pools, gymnasiums, and shower rooms clean. But as far as killing off athlete's foot is concerned, they are as ineffective as sulphur and molasses.

This, at least, is one expert medical opinion. For the past twenty-two months, a group of investigators at New York University Post-Graduate Medical School have been exploring ways to wipe out that pesky fungus that feasts on the toes. While their research, financed by the Army, is only partially completed, they have turned up some heartening—if not startling—news for feet on the shower room floor.

For many years most everyone has believed or been warned that athlete's foot is highly contagious. This idea that you "catch" the itching, burning infection directly from another person's infected feet is behind the maze of regulations which city and state health departments have set up to restrict the spread of the disease. But the New York University group and a number of other dermatologists over the past twenty-five years have never gone along with this theory. In their opinion, flare-ups of athlete's foot rarely result from a new, outside infection. Almost everyone, they believe, picks up the fungus in childhood and, like the bacteria which causes boils, it lives harmlessly on the

skin for years. Only when an individual's resistance becomes lowered can the fungus, already on the feet, get a toe-hold.

To prove the point, the New York University team ran a series of tests on more than one hundred doctors, nurses, and technicians who served as guinea pigs. In one experiment, they selected a group of volunteers known to be free of athlete's foot fungi, then deliberately tried to give them an acute infection. For thirty minutes the subjects each bathed one foot in a pan of water containing 100,000 times the amount of fungi they could possibly pick up from a shower room floor. Following this exposure they were re-examined once weekly. At the end of six weeks, the researchers found that while more than half of the exposed feet harbored fungi, not one had developed an infection.

From all the evidence collected, the investigators have concluded, most of the measures commonly used today to prevent athlete's foot are not only ineffective but are potentially harmful and should be discarded.

- It is useless to douse areas around bathrooms, showers, and swimming pools with fungicidal agents since there is no proof whatsoever that these are breeding grounds for the fungus.
- It is equally useless to attempt to sterilize shoes and socks. While they may contain fungi, sterilization does nothing to the feet, which continue to carry the microbes. In fact, it is likely to do more harm than good; chemicals used in sterilizing may irritate the skin to such an extent that dormant fungi can stage a full-scale invasion.

Reprinted with permission from *Sports Illustrated*, November 1954.

- It is naive to expect that wading for a few seconds through a basin of antiseptic solution will help ward off the disease. These stagnant, unhygienic puddles should be abandoned.
- There is no reason to exclude persons with athlete's foot from public facilities since the relatively small number of fungus particles they might drop is unlikely to cause trouble.

*What then can be done to guard against athlete's foot? Six suggestions:*

1. Wear perforated shoes whenever possible, to allow perspiration to evaporate. Moisture makes the skin between



the toes soggy and the chemical skin reaction, normally acid, becomes neutral or alkaline. Either of these conditions lowers resistance to the fungus.

2. Wear wool or cotton socks which will absorb moisture, rather than nylon, rayon or other nonabsorbing fabrics.

3. Regularly use a dry, mild foot powder that contains a fatty acid.

4. Insert lamb's wool between the toes if the web of skin tends to be soft and moist.

5. Carefully dry feet and toes after bathing and change footgear whenever the socks and shoes become wet.

6. Use nonalkaline soapless detergents when washing the feet rather than ordinary toilet or other soap. ☎

# Naming the Recreation Area

*Is it important to establish a procedure to guide city authorities?*

THE QUESTION of suitable names for recreation and park areas is of increasing concern to the executives and others whose work is centered around these areas. Should their names indicate their location, honor someone of local or national importance, commemorate a person or family notable for advancing local recreation—or simply be appropriate and euphonious?

This problem was the subject of a letter sent to the National Recreation Association by Walter L. Scott, director of municipal and school recreation in Long Beach, California. Mr. Scott expressed concern over the fact that no standard procedure has been adopted to guide city authorities in choosing names for the recreation areas under their jurisdiction. He pointed out that these areas should have meaningful names to which everyone can respond happily, but that busy city officials seldom have time to give much thought to their selection. He therefore asked whether a study of beautiful or appealing names had even been made, and if not, if a list of such names could be compiled.

As a result, query was sent in an Association newsletter to recreation and park executives across the country asking for a list of local recreation areas with particularly appropriate names. Considerable interest was shown by the fact that replies were received from ninety-two cities, four counties, and other state agencies in thirty-five states, the District of Columbia, and Canada. Some replies consisted merely of a list of park names, while others indicated how or why the names were chosen; a few merely expressed their opinion on the general problem of park nomenclature.

The most significant fact disclosed by the replies was that very few municipalities seem to have any established policy to guide them in the selection of appropriate or appealing names, or any committee or other group specifically charged with the responsibility for making suggestions or evaluating suggestions presented to them. This may explain why recreation and park areas in many of the responding cities bear a heterogeneous collection of names selected for various reasons. Few cities have been able (and there was no indication that many have attempted) to set up and adhere to a city-wide pattern of nomenclature.

Even though not all respondents indicated the significance of the names they listed, all of the names mentioned seemed to fall into one or another of the following six categories:

1. Names commemorating individuals.
2. Names honoring special groups.
3. Names indicating location.
4. Names indicating scenic features.
5. Names with historical significance.
6. Names with special connotations.

*(The list of names sent in can be provided to interested readers requesting it.—Ed.)*

## Policies for Selecting Park Names

The Park Naming Committee of the Chicago Park District has drawn up the following policy statement:

1. The names of local communities shall be given preference in the naming of parks, except where the public might confuse such a name with the name of the community itself or with that of another park.
2. When the name of a neighborhood or a public institution within a community has gained a city-wide distinction, then such a name may also be considered as a name for a park serving that neighborhood.
3. When an individual of a neighborhood or a community retains, even after his demise, a reputation for outstanding contributions not only to his local community but to city-wide welfare, then his or her name, if not representing merely sectarian or sectional interests, may also be considered as a name for a park.
4. Names of persons who have made outstanding contributions to the welfare of the city or nation should likewise be considered for park names, but without limits as to their dwelling places.
5. The naming of a park for any individual shall be considered only after he is deceased.

Before the committee arrived at these suggested formulations of policy, it first undertook an extended study of how the parks now in the system were named in the past.

The Special Committee on Nomenclature of the Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners recommended the adoption of this policy:

In the naming of city streets, the city council has perpetuated the names of the presidents of the United States, of explorers of local importance as well as international fame, of statesmen, men of science and the arts of world-wide importance; and the board of education in the naming of its schools has honored famous men and women in the field of arts, literature and science, statesmen and heroes, all of which the committee believes to be most commendable.

Some official body should lay particular emphasis on perpetuating legendary and place names of local significance and the names of those of our own citizens who from time to time have played important parts in the molding of our city—its physical structure, its artistic and spiritual background. Our parks are admirably suited for such purpose, and such a purpose most admirably furthers the work of this board in instilling in the minds of the youth who frequent our parks the ideals of useful citizenship.

Each park so named, equipped with a suitable tablet on which is engraved the name of the honored citizen and a record of his work for the common good, would be an inspiration to all who read it.

The committee recommends that, in naming the parks of this city, the board restrict the names to those commemorating men and women of local civic achievement and historical importance, and legendary and place names of local significance. It hopes that funds can be provided for the plac-

ing of a tablet in each of the parks so named, giving the name of the park and the accomplishments of the person for whom the park is named, for the inspiration of our citizens—and especially our youth—to hold fast to the ideals which make for a better, happier, and more beautiful social community.

### A Plea for Originality

One response to the newsletter was an earnest protest against any furthering of the trend toward standardization—in park naming or any other phase of recreation. The writer said, in part:

"I am disturbed because it is my observation that in everything we do we are being asked to provide blueprints, examples, standards, and manuals, which in effect suggest patterns of thinking which are being carbon-copied all over the country, with little or no regard for the elementary needs of the community. This does not mean that time and thought should not be given to naming areas, but I am very sure that local and original naming is much to be preferred to copying a name that has already been used to excess."

"If I were to suggest a name for a park I know that is now nameless, I would call it Sunshine Park, not because the sun shines in abundance in that area, but rather because

a well-conceived program, administered by suitably-trained and dynamic leaders, offers people of all ages, creeds, and colors a satisfying challenge, the accomplishment of which warms their hearts and is expressed visibly by the sunshine in their smiles."

The fact that many of those replying to the newsletter expressed dissatisfaction with the names of their local recreation areas proves the necessity for giving more attention to the selection of such names. The appointment of a committee on nomenclature and the formulation of definite policies for choosing park names should help to insure the selection of attractive names that are pleasing to a majority of the citizens who use the area. ♦♦♦

### Let Us Hear From You

Readers are invited to comment on the relative importance of this whole problem and to tell us their own practices if they seem good. Address letters to Editor, RECREATION, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11—and keep them as brief as possible, so that they may be published on our Letters page.—Ed.

## Family Camps

DISTRICT 4-H CAMPS for farm families are being established in several areas of Illinois, after experimentation last year. Families who attended the "trial" camps are taking the lead in their communities and are assuming the responsibility for the initial planning.

The 4-H Memorial Camp, Allerton Park, Monticello, proved to be an ideal spot for one project. The twenty cabins made it possible for each family to be housed as a family unit. The regular camp staff took care of the food service, and the counselors assisted with the program.

"Family camp objectives were three," said E. H. (Duke) Regnier, extension recreationist, University of Illinois College of Agriculture. "We wanted the families to learn to play together as a family, to learn through observing other families, and to have a worth-while recreation experience.

"We operated on the theory that if you plan a program that is basically sound, get folks acquainted, and start activities, you'll have leadership. We were not disappointed."

Specific families were assigned to each day's program. Evensong was a family responsibility, too. During the forenoon, mother and dad teams took over the nursery school while other parents attended discussion groups on family relations problems, family library planning, and family recreation.

Kindergarten prospects enjoyed storybook time which was closely correlated with nature lore. Seven- to ten-year-olds were interested in leather tooling, the making of enameled jewelry, and wood carving.

An hour "in cabin" for complete rest and relaxation came immediately after lunch. "Family choice time" followed, with each family selecting an activity in which every member had a special interest.

Camp ended officially Saturday noon, with more than half of the families voting to stay another day, knowing full well that they would be on their own. Nor was leadership and resourcefulness lacking. A cookout was planned for evening with each dad preparing the food for his family. Mothers staged a treasure hunt for the children.

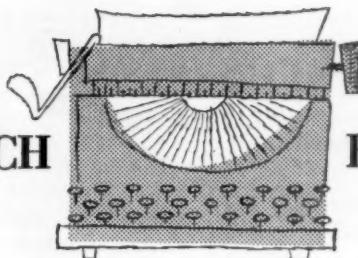
Why is family camp counted important? It is easy to evaluate it in terms of learning to swim, in developing skill in a craft or a game; but the intangibles, those values far out on the fringe of things, are difficult to measure. It is such comments as, "I wish I knew how to tell my neighbors how much fun a family can have together," or, "I can see that my child has lost a lot of fear of other children since we've been here," or "This is the first vacation we've had since we were married."—JESSIE E. HEATHMAN, Assistant Extension Editor, University of Illinois. ♦♦♦

Each family ate as a group. Guests by invitation only. An hour's rest in the cabin came just after the luncheon period.

Discussion helps in unravelling problems. At left, Marguerite Briggs, parent education specialist, University of Illinois.



## RESEARCH



## REVIEWS AND ABSTRACTS

George D. Butler

### Enjoying Better Housing

Individuals interested in leisure time problems of housing projects will find the subject interestingly and efficiently presented in a study, *Enjoying Better Housing*, prepared by Council of Community Agencies, Nashville, Tennessee.

"The Nashville Housing Authority requested that the council study the situation and make recommendations to bring about the greatest use of the authority's facilities and the establishment of programs suited to needs of residents of housing projects." The study committee was made up of representatives of twenty-seven agencies which were concerned directly with the problem. They set two goals: to determine "specific needs of each project and prepare pertinent recommendations," and to consider "the areas of policies which needed evaluation."

The committee working on determination of policies presented three major recommendations: (1) that a coordinator be employed by the housing authority; (2) that an advisory committee to the board of commissioners be established; and (3) that tenant committees be formed in each project. Sub-committees studied coordination, tenant relationship, private agencies and housing authority relationships, and finance. They developed policies which describe the manner in which agencies shall work together in using the authority's facilities and in working with tenants. These policies should serve as an excellent guide to help overcome situations arising from joint operation of program where agency jurisdiction and competition for participation from the same individuals is so likely to develop.

The committee on policies pointed out to the city park board that there was a limit to the extent to which volunteer agencies could continue to accept functions that in most cases were the city's responsibility. Here the committee placed a great responsibility on the public recreation program. The same committee challenged the Nashville school system to open schools to private and city agencies for recreation in addition to developing after-school programs themselves.

The committee prepared recommendations to meet the needs of pre-school, elementary, and secondary school children, adults, the needs of the facility. A list of principles, which demonstrates the orderliness of this study, was prepared to guide the work of the committee. These principles are well worked out and a professional recreation worker would be interested in further study of these as well as the policies worked out by the policy committee.—BEVERLY S. SHEFFIELD, Director, Recreation Department, Austin, Texas.

MR. BUTLER is director of the NRA Research Department.

### Recreation and School Areas

A bulletin, entitled *1954 Inventory Public Recreation and School Areas*, issued by the Delaware County Planning Commission in Media, Pennsylvania, presents the report of a study of recreation and school areas in the county. It offers suggestions for expanding the areas and establishes goals for public recreation areas according to types for which desirable standards are presented. A few findings:

- Open land and natural countryside are rapidly disappearing in Delaware County. Bold plans are required to preserve open space and scenic charm for the enjoyment of the county's growing population.
- Currently, Delaware County is adding approximately 15,000 persons to its population each year.
- Each year, about two square miles of the county's fields and farms are being built up in new houses.
- Golf courses available for public use have declined from seven to three since 1945.
- Minimum standards developed for Delaware County indicate that for every one thousand persons of the population there should be ten acres of local recreation and school lands. In addition, there should be approximately ten to fifteen acres per one thousand persons in regional recreation facilities such as golf courses, large parks, reservations.
- Over half the existing public school sites should be enlarged to provide adequate play space.
- The county's scenic creek valleys should be protected and developed as a major asset in the county's recreational system and as natural channels for storm drainage.

The report comments on the shrinking potential recreation area in the county:

"Large population increases inevitably mean the gradual disappearance of open fields, woods and streams which have long been available for informal recreational use and enjoyment. Since 1951, subdivisions of land covering six and a half square miles have been approved by the Delaware County Planning Commission. Numerous formerly open lots in older subdivisions have also been built up.

"In addition, many acres are each year absorbed for institutional, commercial, and industrial use, highway and public utility construction. . . .

"The net result is that, in many sections of the county, open lands which have been available or potentially available for recreational use have disappeared or are about to disappear. Within the last ten years, five golf courses in the most built-up portions of the county have been put into residential or other development. There are strong indications that, in time, the remaining three courses will be used for residential or other development. Many 'sandlot' ball fields and 'picnic groves' have doubtless met a similar fate with no one to record their passing." c-e

# A Baseball Practice Area

Mickey McConnell

**B**ASIC FUNDAMENTALS are extremely important to baseball players since they serve the double purpose of forming correct habit patterns and eliminating the possibility of injury which might come from not knowing how to slide, throw, or bat.

To give the boys good training conditions and facilities, I recommend the construction of a practice area approximately seventy feet square, adjacent to the regular field. If such an area is not available, the training aids may be set up down the foul lines or scattered around the outside of the field.

The larger central area is recommended because it simplifies the problem of supervision and instruction. The facilities described here have been adequately tested by the Brooklyn Dodgers, Pittsburgh Pirates, Boston Braves, St. Louis Cardinals, and other professional, college, and high school officials.

Of prime importance is a sliding pit—six feet wide and twelve feet long, filled with sand, should be adequate. Players should be taught to slide with their feet and arms up in the air, their eyes on the bag. To get into this position, it is necessary to land on the buttocks where the body provides the most natural padding. Getting the arms and legs into the air prevents possible breaks, sprains, and chipped bones.

The boys should stay low when going into the slide and should always keep in mind that it isn't a jump, but a *slide!* Every boy who is physically fit should spend some time in the sliding pit at every practice session. Once the player learns the desired position, he can work on the hook slide and other refinements.

The second practice area, for pitchers, consists of a unique device known as "pitching strings." Introduced to professional baseball by Branch Rickey, they provide a target for a pitcher. Two

strike zones are recommended. They are erected over home plates, which can be built of scrap lumber, painted white, and anchored to the ground with wooden pegs.

Two-by-four poles can be stuck into the ground approximately ten feet apart with four-inch sides parallel to the pitching mounds. The poles should be lined up so that cords strung between them will be directly above the front of each home plate. One string should be at average knee-high level and the other at average armpit height.

The strings should be of strong white cord, similar to a carpenter's marking line, and can be obtained in hardware stores. Once the cross-strings have been stretched, up-and-down strings the width of each home plate should be strung between the cross-strings directly above the sides of the plate to complete the strike zone.

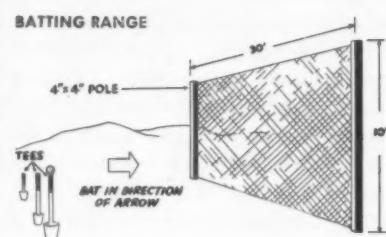
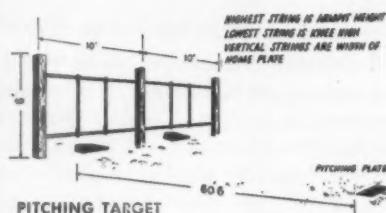
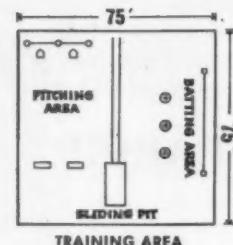
Practice pitching mounds can be erected the proper distance ( $60\frac{1}{2}$  feet) from the strike zones, and practice pitching slabs can be built from scrap lumber, painted white, and anchored to the ground with wooden pegs.

When the practice pitching area is completed, pitchers can warm up at regular intervals, using the strike zone for a target. This practice can be made more realistic by having a batter stand in the batter's box. In this way the batter has a chance to judge strikes and balls and become familiar with the pitched ball, and the pitcher gets used to pitching to a batter.

After a few sessions, the batter can start his swing and then pull back to get the practice of checking his swing when the pitch is bad. This is a good drill for the batter, but he should never go through with the swing. It would break the strings and might injure someone working on another assignment in the practice area.

The third section of the practice area is the batting-tee range. A net or canvas can be strung between poles or buildings. The size of the area isn't too

**MICKEY McCONNELL**, former scouting director for the Brooklyn Dodgers, now coordinates youth activities for the U.S. Rubber Company.



important, but an area from eight to ten feet high and thirty feet wide is recommended. This would take care of three batting tees and batters at one time.

By using a woolen practice ball, the batting-tee area could be set up beside a building or any other barrier. This ball will carry far enough in flight to determine whether the batter is hitting line drives, grounders, or high flies, and will eliminate the breaking of windows and other similar hazards. If no area is available, tees can be set up behind the regular field backstop and balls hit against the backstop.

The tees, which can be purchased or built, should be placed about ten to twelve feet from the barrier so that the batter can determine by the flight of the ball whether he's hitting on a line—which should be his aim—or over or under it; and also whether he's hitting to the opposite field, pulling the ball, or hitting straightaway.

Each of these aids can be constructed at very little cost and should provide many more practice opportunities for every player. **CON**

Condensed and reprinted with permission from the January 1954 issue of *Scholastic Coach*.

## Hospital Capsules

Miss Doris Berryman, recreation director at Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases, briefly summarizes the Second Southern Regional Conference on Hospital Recreation, held at the University of North Carolina:

The conference got under way with one of the most challenging and thought provoking speeches I have ever heard, when Alexander Reid Martin, M.D., of New York, representing the American Psychiatric Association, spoke on "A Philosophy of Recreation for the Mentally and Physically Ill."

In the sessions chaired by Irma Davis, recreation director at James Ewing Hospital, New York, we discussed similarities and differences in programs for children, tubercular, chronic, and short-term patients—and also pointed out patients' anxieties and fears and how a recreation worker can help allay them.

The discussions on research, by Dr. Edith Ball, School of Education, New York University, led to the conclusions that studies could be divided into four categories ranging from the simple survey done by senior students up to the complex studies done for doctoral theses or by highly trained research teams. Contributions are needed on all levels. Biggest problem is lack of money, so the group voted to request The Council for the Advancement of Hospital Recreation—at their next meeting, June 3—to appoint a committee to outline, in the next six months, at least one study to be presented to those foundations which have money available.

The group on in-service training, led by Russell G. Ramage, chief of recreation, Veterans Administration Hospital, Salisbury, North Carolina, discussed the value of training ward aides to help in the recreation program, and how best to train them. There was also discussion on the importance of training and orienting volunteers, and an exchange

MRS. BEATRICE HILL is consultant on hospital recreation for the National Recreation Association.

Beatrice H. Hill

of ideas and experiences in handling this problem.

The panel on mental and emotional ills, chaired by Paul Haun, M.D., assistant professor of psychiatry, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, discussed seven important questions: (1) Is the recreation worker a therapist? (2) What are the desirable personality traits in a recreation worker? (3) What information about the clinical status of the patient does the recreation worker need? (4) Should the physician prescribe recreation activity? (5) Do recreation activities afford a means for the expression of feelings? (6) What techniques are useful in selecting recreation workers? (7) What recreation programs are particularly adapted to patients who are mentally ill?

The aim of the panel was not to find specific answers for these questions, but to stimulate interest in the problems and to exchange ideas based on each worker's experiences. They also pointed out that each of these questions had ramifications that needed exploring and the danger in coming to hasty conclusions.

The final meeting on Tuesday afternoon was divided into three groups: military hospitals; Veterans Administration hospitals; and state, municipal, county and private hospitals. Each group discussed problems pertinent to their own situation.

In addition to these workshops, there were patient demonstrations of recreation for cerebral palsy children, the

blind, and the mentally ill. Special meetings included: a speech by Bernath E. Phillips, Ph.D., Veterans Administration, on work simplifications; a discussion and demonstration on music in hospitals led by Carl Myers, chief, Special Services, Veterans Administration, Oteen; and a party demonstration given by Miss Ruth McCall, field director, American Red Cross, Fort Bragg.

I believe all who attended the conference will unanimously agree it proved to be most stimulating and informative. Due credit must be given to all who assisted in and with the program, particularly to the genial and gracious host Harold D. Meyer, who was responsible for creating another milestone towards the advancement of hospital recreation.

### Change of Address

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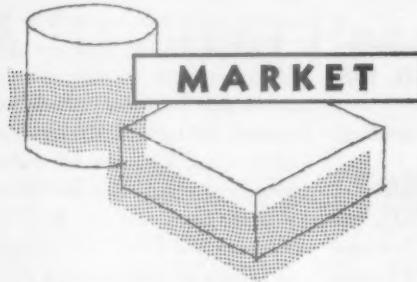
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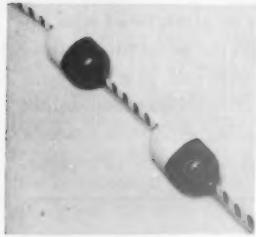
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## NEWS

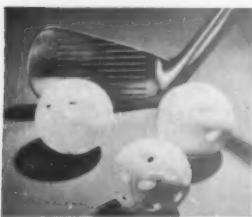
If you are interested in any of these products, write directly to the manufacturer at the address given. PLEASE mention that you read about it on RECREATION magazine's Market News page.



A new, colorful plastic life line with all-plastic floats, suitable for either life lines or race lanes, has been introduced by Ocean Pool Supply Co., which claims that the unit will last a lifetime. Available in a red and white rope-like twist of spun polyethylene, it will not absorb water and is unaffected by salts, chemicals or oils. Since it is lighter and floats above water, fewer buoys are required. Write to the company, 866 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

◆ Accidents resulting from slipping on wet swimming pool decks can now be largely prevented by a new rubber runner mat, known as Do-ALL, which has ribs running parallel to the length. It is available in black, red, green, blue, and mosaic, 23 inches wide in rolls 50 feet long, and 34 inches wide by 38 feet long. Sides and edges are beveled. Free literature and prices may be obtained from American Mat Corporation, 2307 Adams Street, Toledo 2, Ohio.

◆ Two photo-lesson golf charts (17 by 22 inches) are available without charge from MacGregor, 4861 Spring Grove, Cincinnati 32, Ohio. One, by Bob Toski, demonstrates use of a short iron; the other, by George Bayer, gives instruction on the driver. Both charts show and explain the swing from beginning to the final follow-through. The speed photos in the charts show the action stopped at all important points of the swing.



◆ Practice golf balls molded of Tenite polyethylene provide an economical means of improving strokes. These lightweight balls consist of identical hollow hemispheres, patterned with openings, and sealed permanently together. The tough, resilient material takes impact without denting and has enough "give" to forestall cuts and abrasions. Manufactured by Tigrett Enterprises, 66 East Walton Place, Chicago 11, Illinois.

◆ A new, colorful plastic life line with all-plastic floats, suitable for either life lines or race lanes, has been introduced by Ocean Pool Supply Co., which claims that the unit will last a lifetime. Available in a red and white rope-like twist of spun polyethylene, it will not absorb water and is unaffected by salts, chemicals or oils. Since it is

◆ The 1955 *Famous Slugger Year Book*, packed with interesting baseball information and highlights of 1954 season, and the 1955 edition of *Official Softball Rules* may be obtained from sporting goods dealers throughout the country, or direct from Hillerich & Bradsby Company, Dept. R, 434-436 Finzer Street, Louisville 2, Kentucky. Also available from the company are two catalogs: one on Louisville Slugger baseball and softball bats and the other on Grand Slam golf clubs.

◆ A new, fully illustrated sixty-page catalog just released by American Playground Device Company shows playground, park-picnic, dressing room, and outdoor gymnasium equipment, and so on. An interesting section is devoted to planning of playground areas, utilization of ground space, safety considerations, and proper installation including a reference table giving number of workmen, hours of labor, and materials required. For your copy write to the company at Anderson, Indiana.

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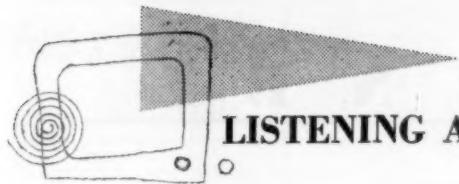
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## LISTENING AND VIEWING

### Recreation Activities on Radio and TV

• Radio and TV stations are continually discovering that local recreation activities are a rich source of program material. In Mobile, Alabama, "The Playground Reporter," a weekly radio show is in its twelfth year on the air. Semi-monthly TV shows are also produced using local amateur talent discovered on the playgrounds through glee-club activities, hobby shows, talent week, arts and crafts, and dancing groups. The programs are presented over WALA and WALA-TV.

• Public and private recreation agencies in the Seattle, Washington area, recently helped produce a thirteen-week series, "Family Fun," over the new educational TV station, KCTS. The series covered such home-centered activities as games, play, music, story-telling, and party planning. Among agencies represented were the public recreation departments of King County, Seattle, Tacoma, Puyallup, and Kirkland.

### Films

• Recreation leaders who arrange swimming competitions will be interested in the new *Training the Diving Judge*, which helps judges develop skills and a sound philosophy about techniques and methods of judging diving performances. Six introductory dives and twenty-one additional dives are included. The film was developed and is sponsored by the Conference for National Cooperation in Aquatics, representing twenty-one national organizations active in aquatics. For information

write Phil Moriarty, Department of Physical Education, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

• The sixth in the "Water World Series" of color films produced for the National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers, *School for Skippers*, follows the exploits of a novice in boating as he buys his first cruiser and takes his family out for a ride. The 13½ minute, color, free-loan film is available from the association at 420 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, New York.

• Four films dealing directly with various phases of recreation won recognition of merit awards at the 1955 Golden Reel Film Festival in New York City. These included *Dearborn Holiday* by the Ford Motor Company, *Learning to Run* by Lighthouse Films, *The Rules of Golf Etiquette*, sponsored by the United States Golf Association, and *The Fantastic 500* by Dynamic Films. In the sound slidefilm competition one of the winners was *Balance and Blend* sponsored by The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America (see RECREATION, November 1954).

### Filmstrips

A series of six filmstrips on national parks has been produced by Haeseler Pictures with the collaboration of Richard A. Pough, chairman of the department of conservation of the American Museum of Natural History and the National Parks Service. Write to Haeseler Pictures, Amity Road, Woodbridge, New Haven 15, Connecticut.

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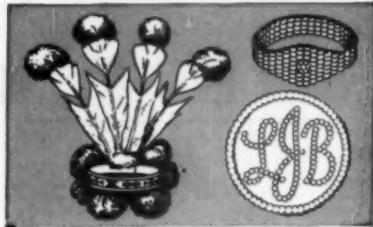
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# PERSONNEL

## EXPANDING THE RECREATION PROFESSION IN THE SOUTH

W. C. Sutherland

Those findings of the Southern Regional Study (which has just been published by the National Recreation Association with the title *Recreation As A Profession in the Southern Region*) and conclusions of the regional conference which pertain to the need for and supply of skilled recreation leaders are presented in a brochure published by the Southern Regional Education Board. Some of them are:

### The Need for Recreation Personnel

The South is a vast region,<sup>1</sup> marked by increasing change. Its industries and cities have grown rapidly, and recreation programs have developed accordingly. Increased income has supported trained leaders, better facilities, organization, and administration.

The study made by the National Recreation Association and the Southern Regional Education Board shows that organized recreation programs in the South center, for the most part, upon communities and in institutions, and that the growth of the profession since 1940, and even more particularly since 1950, has been phenomenal. It also shows that the recreation profession will continue to expand rapidly. In 1952, executives of recreation programs estimated that by 1957 their agencies will have added three full-time workers for every four then employed. If these estimates are correct, the total of professional recreation workers will grow from 4,200 to over 7,000. Through a very conservative estimate of possible development in recreation, the study projects a need for 10,675 full-time workers. This estimate ignores expected population increases, growth of cities, addition of new community programs, and expansions of voluntary agencies beyond 1957.

### Resources for Training Leaders

Most agencies employing recreation leaders require college graduation for new employees, and it is likely that this requirement eventually will include a major in recreation. An annual need for about 1,000 college graduates with recreation majors for the next several years is indicated. Southern colleges and universities offering recreation curriculums are graduating only a fraction of this number. Such facts point to broad lacks of: (1) trained people at present, and for expansion; (2) a sufficient number of graduates entering to maintain, much less to expand, the profession; and (3) with few exceptions, enough students to justify adequate faculty.

More students must be found, students whose chances of completing the curriculum are good. Selection among stu-

dents is difficult if not impossible if the total number presenting themselves is too small to meet the needs of the profession.

### Proposals for Recruitment and Strengthening

The above facts and conclusions, reported in the study, were considered by the Southern Regional Conference on Recreation Education in February 1955. With regard to recruitment it was decided that:

1. Recruitment of students is a responsibility of the profession as well as of the colleges and universities.
2. Regional efforts should be related to and should intensify national efforts.
3. Recreation leaders and their agencies should assume responsibility for intensive recruitment efforts in local communities by jointly planning formal recruitment efforts which should include: (a) contacts with all local student counselors, guidance personnel, and appropriate employment agencies; (b) personal appearances before local adult and student organizations; and (c) use of mass communication media for special occasions to advertise the attractiveness of recreation as a profession.
4. State recreation societies and district organizations of the National Recreation Association should establish recruitment committees.

That such committees, among other things, should: (a) hold state conferences; (b) seek scholarship funds; and (c) secure support of the state departments of education and all other state and regional agencies of government concerned with recreation to send out recruitment information, with special emphasis to rural areas.

With regard to the professional preparation of recreation personnel it was concluded that:

1. Efforts to enlarge and strengthen recreation education should be developed on a regional basis through the joint planning of colleges and universities, agencies employing recreation graduates, the National Recreation Association, and the Southern Regional Education Board.

2. The development of recreation education will be hastened if recreation instruction is organized in each college or university as a separate department, division, or curriculum under the full-time supervision of a qualified educator.

3. Education for recreation be more closely related to needs of agencies employing recreation graduates, particularly through requirement of full-time field experience for graduation, with both agencies and educational institutions determining standards and nature of field work.

<sup>1</sup> States included: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

MR. SUTHERLAND is the director of the NRA Recreation Personnel Service.

## Books & Pamphlets Received

**ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.** Charles A. Bucher. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis 3, Missouri. Pp. 424. \$5.50.\*

**AIDS FOR HEALTH TEACHING.** Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, One Madison Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 8. Free.

**ANSWERS, THE.** Darius Leander Swann. Friendship Press, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 15. \$1.25, package of 10.\*

**BUILT-INS FOR HOME IMPROVEMENT.** Robert Oakes Jordon. Frederick J. Drake and Company, 117 Green Bay, Wilmette, Illinois. Pp. 137. \$2.00.

**CABINBUILDING ANNUAL—1955 Edition.** Sports Afield, 250 West 55th Street, New York 19. Pp. 120. \$75. (\$.85 in Canada.)

**CAMPING ANNUAL—1955 Edition.** Sports Afield, 250 West 55th Street, New York 19. Pp. 120. \$75. (\$.85 in Canada.)

**CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY—A Verse Drama.** Felicia Komai. Friendship Press, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 79. \$1.50.\*

**DAY CENTERS FOR OLDER PEOPLE.** Henry L. McCarthy. American Public Welfare Association, 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37. Pp. 15. \$.30.

**DO YOU KNOW YOUR BASEBALL?** Hy Gittlitz. The Grosby Press, 30 Ferry Street, New York 38. Pp. 205. Soft-bound, \$1.75; hardbound, \$2.75.

**GEORGIA'S HERITAGE OF SONG.** Henrietta Collings. University of Georgia Press, Athens, Georgia. Pp. 87. \$1.50.

**GOOD COUNSELORS MAKE GOOD CAMPS.** Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., 155 East 44th Street, New York 17. Pp. 40. \$.35.

**HEALTH GOALS FOR YOUTH.** Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, One Madison Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 14. Free.

**IS THIS YOU?** Ruth Krauss and Crockett Johnson. William R. Scott, Inc., 8 West 13th Street, New York 11. Unpaged. \$1.50.

**LAND OF PRETEND, THE.** Eloise Lisle Johnson. C. C. Birchard & Company, 285 Columbus Avenue, Boston 16. Pp. 60. \$1.00.

**LATIN AMERICAN SONGS.** David Stevens. C. C. Birchard & Company, 285 Columbus Avenue, Boston 16. Pp. 46. \$.75.

**MAKE IT WITH ALUMINUM.** Fawcett Publications, Greenwich, Connecticut. Pp. 144. \$.75.

**MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE—ORGANIZING AND OPERATING GUIDE.** National Golf Foundation, 407 South Dearborn Street, Chicago 5. Pp. 128. \$3.00.

**OFFICIAL SOFTBALL-TRACK AND FIELD GUIDE—January 1955-56.** American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C. Pp. 150. \$.50.

**OUTBOARD BOATING HANDBOOK.** Hank Wieand Bowman. Fawcett Publications, Greenwich, Connecticut. Pp. 146. \$.75.

**PATHWAYS.** James Carl Crowson. The Christoher Publishing House, 1140 Columbus Avenue, Boston 20. Pp. 204. \$3.00.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION SYLLABUS.** James W. Long, Harold M. Barrow, and Marjorie Crisp. Burgess Publishing Company, 426 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota. Pp. 168. \$1.75.

**PLAYGROUND FACILITIES — FOR RURAL AND SMALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.** Harold J. Cornacchia and John E. Nixon. Stanford University Press, Stanford, California. Pp. 43. \$1.50.

**RECREATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED.** Valerie V. Hunt. Prentice-Hall, Inc., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York 11. Pp. 340. \$6.65.\*

**RECREATION LEADER'S HANDBOOK.** Richard Kraus. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 330 West 42nd Street, New York 36. Pp. 299. \$4.75.\*

**SELECTED VOLLEYBALL ARTICLES.** American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C. Pp. 66. \$1.00.

**SING—THE ALL PURPOSE SONG BOOK.** David Stevens. C. C. Birchard & Company, 285 Columbus Avenue, Boston 16. Pp. 144. \$.50.

**SO YOU WANT TO BE A PLAYWRIGHT.** Betty Scheyer. Exposition Press, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 61. \$3.00.

**TEACH YOURSELF TO SWIM.** Gene Steinken. Weldon Mail Service, Box 232, Lake Zurich, Illinois. Pp. 23. \$1.00.

**TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION.** The American Baseball Congress, Youth Building, 115 West Street, Battle Creek, Michigan. Pp. 37. \$.60.

**UMPIRE'S HANDBOOK OF THE AMERICAN BASEBALL CONGRESS—1955 Edition.** The American Baseball Congress, Youth Building, 115 West Street, Battle Creek, Michigan. Pp. 50. \$.75.

**YOUR VOICE IS YOU.** Myrtle Helmer Cannon. Exposition Press, Inc., 386 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 47. \$2.50.

## Magazine Articles

**BEACH AND POOL, April 1955**  
Synchronized Swimming in Australia, *Henry Gundling*.

New-world Adventure.  
New Construction Method, *Arnold Sheldon*.

Ten New Pools for Cleveland.  
The Prefabricated Steel-Reinforced Concrete Pool.  
Sound Conditioning Indoor Pools.

**JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AND RECREATION, April 1955.**  
Equipping Our Play Areas—A Symposium.

Racial Integration in High School Interscholastic Sports, *John Brogneaux*.

Playground On Wheels, *Nevin Nichols*.

Playground Surfaces — A Symposium.

**PARK MAINTENANCE, April 1955**  
How Austria Equips Its Children's Playgrounds, *Reg Butler*.  
Breakwaters . . . Costly If Not Properly Engineered.  
Worker Grips . . . Should Be Ferreted Out and Thoroughly Aired.

**PARKS AND RECREATION, April 1955**  
A New Light for Recreation, *Dewey R. Kruckberg*.

Design of Park and Recreation Areas of Approximately 10 Acres, *Alfred B. LaGrasse*.

Industrial Recreation—What It Is—and What It Isn't, *A. H. Spinner*. Filters and Chlorinators, *L. B. Houston*.

Concrete Swimming Pools Are Sound Investment in Community Health.

**RAWLINGS ROUNDUP—Vol. 1955 No. 2**  
In Decatur, Too, They Have Places to Play.

\* These publications are available from the National Recreation Association at list price plus fifteen cents for each book ordered to cover postage and handling. Active Associate and Affiliate Members of the Association receive a ten per cent discount on list price. Remittances should accompany orders from individuals; organizations and recreation departments will be billed on their official orders. Address orders to Combined Book Service, National Recreation Association, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11, New York.



# PUBLICATIONS

## Covering the Leisure-time Field

### Worship Ways for Camp

Clarice M. Bowman. Association Press, 291 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y. Pp. 182. \$3.00.\*

Last year the Association Press published Miss Bowman's *Spiritual Values in Camping*, setting forth the ways in which camping experience can provide the maximum in spiritual values. The present volume follows up the idea with actual resource material. Basic to the approach is the idea of worship as frequently a spontaneous, unplanned lift of the spirit aroused by sunset flaming or dawn brightening or the sight of a tiny almost hidden violet. The author envisions a leader able to catch such exalted moments and wordlessly, or articulately with just the right word, to weave an awareness of God into the very fabric of living.

While many pages are devoted to the difficult task of building such awareness, there are also chapters of prayers and rituals and other inspirational suggestions. Many of these lay no claim to literary expression, often being group effort to make permanent a high experience. Others, from well-known inspirational writers or from the Bible, are exalted both in thought and wording. Brotherhood in its widest meaning is stressed in many of the selections—"a street-urchin standing in a doorway in Naples, a farmer on the western plains of Canada, a soldier in the Palestine hills, a steelworker in Pittsburgh, a fisherman on the upper Yangtze, a young mother in Bombay." One prayer is entitled, "Save Me From Hating People."

A number of the Graces are memorable, notably: "Great Giver of every good and perfect gift, give us just one more gift—the gift of thankful hearts." —Edna V. Braucher, National Recreation Association.

### Individual and Team Sports for Women

Donna Mae Miller and Katherine L. Ley. Prentice-Hall, Inc., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York 11. Pp. 502. \$7.35.\*

Although written for teachers of physical education, this can be a valuable handbook for recreation leaders of women's sports. Its wide variety of practical material, with helpful illus-

trations, provides scores of new ideas, novel games and contests to improve skills, suggestions for evaluating devices, audio-visual aids, tournaments.

### Program of the Modern Camp

Gerald P. Burns. Prentice-Hall, Inc., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York 11. Pp. 320. \$5.65.\*

This book, which was published in the late spring last year, was edited by Dr. Gerald P. Burns, former executive director of the American Camping Association, and compiled by a distinguished group of camping experts. It should not be overlooked by anyone who is planning a camp, directing a camp, or participating in camp leadership. It is not only a report on present camping practices, but covers the philosophy of camping, program planning, activities, points out new trends, and gives thirteen examples of balanced camp programs. A portion of its chapter on "Evening Programs in Camp" is reprinted on page 275 of this issue of RECREATION.

### Ceramics

Harry Zarchy. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 501 Madison Avenue, New York 22. Pp. 171. \$3.00.

A concise, reasonably-priced guide for beginners in a craft which now tops the hit parade of creative hobbies. (See "Adult Arts and Crafts Are Terrific Success," page 273.) Ceramics appeal to young and old alike, and this clear outline of each step with sketches and photographs should be helpful to both. The book is not intended to be an advanced technical manual, but is for those who would like to get started in this craft and don't know how to begin.

### Children in Focus—Their Health and Activity

American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation. National Education Association of the United States. Pp. 277. \$3.50.

This is the 1954 Year Book of the American Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. It is a

\* See footnote on page 295.

joint effort of some twenty-four writers to bring to bear on the elementary-age youngsters their various special areas of competence and understandings related to individual growth and development.

The book is divided into six parts covering: (1) understanding of the child in relation to the world in which he lives; (2) application of current knowledge of child growth and development; (3) content of a program in health, physical education and recreation adapted to the needs, interests and maturation level of this age group; (4) evaluation in terms of what happens to children as persons; (5) out of school and after school experiences which will make for fuller and enriched lives for every child; and (6) future preparation of teachers and leaders in these fields.

The real contribution of this book is that, in one volume, you have the many facets of the health, physical and recreation needs of the elementary youngster and how they may be met. Some of these authors have made similar points in other writings but never in the collective fashion found in this book. Here all of their strengths are brought together in focus on the grade school boy and girl.

This publication should be of special interest in teacher training programs, and will be helpful to the active teacher of health and physical education and recreation leader in bringing to them an up to date account of the current thinking in these areas for this age group.—John J. Collier, Great Lakes District Representative, National Recreation Association.

## INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

American Camping Association, Inc.	278
American Orienteering Service	278
American Playground Device Company	255
Champion Recreation Equipment, Inc.	256
Child Study Association of America	293
Handweaver & Craftsman	292
Hillerich & Bradsby	253
Jayfro Athletic Supply Company	291
LeisureCrafts	291
The Seamless Rubber Company	249
Van Horn & Son, Inc.	293
W. J. Voit Rubber Corporation	269
X-acto, Inc.	293

# Recreation Leadership Courses

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Jefferson City

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David M. Langkammer, Superintendent of Recreation

Berks County, Pennsylvania  
June 8-10

Lloyd H. Miller, Director, Recreation Board of Berks County,  
Reading

Lancaster, Pennsylvania  
June 13 and 14

Albert E. Reese, Jr., Director of Recreation, 135 N. Lime Street

Youngstown, Ohio  
June 16 and 17

O. S. Ellis, Director-Treasurer, The Youngstown Playground Associa-  
tion, 2218 Ohio Avenue

Danville, Virginia  
June 20-23

Miss Constance Rollison, Supervisor of Special Activities, Recre-  
ation Department

Fitchburg, Massachusetts  
June 27-30

Miss Mary C. Kiely, Park Department

**RUTH G. EHRLERS**  
Playground Leadership

Vineland, New Jersey  
June 9 and 10

Jack A. Claes, Supervisor of Recreation, Recreation Commission,  
City Hall

\*Greensburg, Pennsylvania  
June 13-16

Othmar B. Wuenschel, Recreation Director, Greensburg Recreation  
Board, 305 S. Maple

Upper Darby, Pennsylvania  
June 20-22

Herbert S. Herzog, Director of Health, Physical Education and  
Recreation, Upper Darby School District

Shepherdstown, West Virginia  
July 5-8

Dr. O. S. Ikenberry, President, Shepherd College

**ANNE LIVINGSTON**  
Playground Leadership

4-H Club Round-Up  
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May 31-June 3

George E. Hull, Assistant State 4-H Club Leader, Extension Service  
County Agent Work

New Ulm, Minnesota  
June 6 and 7

Joseph Harmon, Director of Recreation

Owatonna, Minnesota  
June 8-11

Edward Brandein, Director of Recreation

Fergus Falls, Minnesota  
June 13 and 14

Odis LeGrand, Supervisor, Department of Elementary Physical  
Education, Fergus Falls Public Schools

Pittsfield, Massachusetts  
June 20-23

Miss Marilyn J. Thompson, Supervisor of Recreation, 52 School  
Street

Decatur, Illinois  
June 9 and 10

Russell J. Foval, Superintendent of Recreation, 243 S. Water Street

Toledo, Ohio  
June 13-16

Arthur G. Morse, Supervisor, Division of Recreation, 214-18 Safety  
Building

Westchester County, New York  
June 22-24

Miss Vivian O. Wills, Assistant Superintendent, Westchester County  
Recreation Commission, County Office Building, White Plains

Winona Lake, Indiana  
June 9

Floyd M. Todd, Free Methodist Church of North America

Toledo, Ohio  
June 13-16

Arthur G. Morse, Supervisor, Division of Recreation, 214-18 Safety  
Building

\* In cooperation with Latrobe, Jeannette and Hempfield Township.

Attendance at training courses conducted by National Recreation Association leaders is usually open to all who wish to attend. For details as to location of course, content of course, registration procedure and the like, please communicate with the sponsor of the course listed above.

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